

I WRITE AS I SEE

BY ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET
Tribune - Philadelphia,
SEGREGATED HOUSING Pa.

LET US HOPE that the Metropolitan Insurance Company's "Riverton Housing Project", in Harlem, is never built. Costing five million dollars it will represent only an additional huge sum of money designed to keep the Negro in his place.

9-30-44

Having failed in their efforts to extinguish the flame of human genius which prompts Negroes as well as other human mortals to aspire to the top rungs of the ladder of culture, certain groups in the powerful forces of the majority still hope to thwart our forward and upward march by pushing us aside into ghettos and restricted areas. This undoubtedly is the plan behind the recent proposal of the Metropolitan.



The difference between a man and a dog is that while a dog reared and pampered in a pent-house on Fifth Avenue still is destined to remain only a dog, you can have a man born and reared in a stable or a log cabin and he can become the saviour of all the rest of mankind.

I would rather take my chances freely in the face of most adverse economic conditions in a society which is relatively open to all, than to live under the most pampered circumstances in a situation where I am set aside and apart in order to make sure that I and my kind never rub elbows with the rest of society and therefore get no opportunity of influencing or being influenced by them.

"I WILL NOT BE TIED"

9-30-44

When the young Douglass was captured in an early effort to escape from the bonds of slavery, one of his accomplices, confronted with the muzzle of a gun shoved into his face, shouted, "Shoot me and be damned. I will not be tied!"

All Negroes are living in times when in one voice we must cry out, "Deny us and be damned—we will not be tied!"

A "rich" ghetto is no better than one we call a slum. If anything, the slum is preferable, for in the slum an added incentive exists to get out and improve one's lot. If improvement were not the central theme of American existence, our nation would stagnate and wither as the autumn leaf. White folk ought to be glad that Negroes press on to higher places, because only as long as we do this do we help America to move further along the road of progress and democracy.

9-30-44

UPAC'S HOUSING CAMPAIGN

As UPAC announced to you many months ago, the time is nearly here when the Metropolitan and other insurance agencies will attempt to have our legislature pass permissive legislation granting them the right to erect apartment houses in Philadelphia. There is little time to lose in making sure that this legislation is non-discriminatory. WE NEGROES MUST BE ALLOWED TO RENT THESE HOMES.

Now is a good time to get into UPAC's campaign for better housing. Join up with Mrs. Cleoria DeLaine's committee. Address her at 1816 Diamond Street (Stevenson 4482), or come out to a UPAC meeting held on Thursday nights at the YMCA, 1724 Christian Street. Buttonhole every influential politician and business man, and especially the candidates for the legislature, and commit them on this matter. We do not want segregated insurance housing in Pennsylvania.

9-30-44

Also join the throng of citizens who will trek to Town Hall, Friday evening, October 20, to hear Mary McCleod Bethune, Adam Clayton Powell and others striking notes for liberty in our city. Join with us for First-Class-Citizens-for-All-Americans... We will not be tied.

PROTESTS JIM CROW HOLC PRACTICES

9-7-44

NEW YORK—A letter was sent by the NAACP legal force protesting discriminatory practices of the HOLC in the case of Miss Daphne Herbert who submitted forms, and fulfilled specified requirements for a loan on the purchase of a

When the request was first home in Carona, L. I.

denied by the government agency, it was found the application had been marked "colored prospect." Reconsideration was based on both the raising of the original price of the home and the down payment.

The NAACP pointed out "this decision which may cause whole-sale evictions from recently purchased properties."

property was to be bought for \$6,500, \$800 down, and \$59.60 per month thereafter."

Response of the publisher of the Citizen-News, in 34 page decision HOLC stated "because of the type of property involved, it will be necessary for Miss Herbert to make terms and conditions which we have previously outlined to our local representative in his negotiations with her as a prospective purchaser at a price of \$7,000 and a down payment of \$2,000."

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The property referred to is located 3317 97th street, Corona L. I. in a mixed community with many Negroes living one half block away from the address listed.

Calif. Residents Hit By Decision

Eviction Notices

Served To Notables

10-3-44

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(SNS)—Negro residence and citizenship generally was affected here in this coastal city by a recent judicial decision which may cause whole-sale evictions from recently purchased properties.

Judge William J. Palmer, brother of the publisher of Hollywood Citizen-News, in 34 page decision decided that a covenant entered into by owners of 392 separate lots restricting sale or occupancy to those other than Caucasian race was sufficient to enjoin Negro defendant Bryant Allen and 25 other Negro families from living in a block between Main and Broadway and Fifth Street.

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Pasadena case of Fairchild versus Rains, where Judge Rodger Traynor wrote a separate concurring opinion basing the theory that a changing condition of a neighborhood softened the contract in a manner that could be avoided by a number of contractees.

The trial judge ruled that a contract was binding, arguing that constitutional guarantees under the Fourteenth Amendment, freedom of speech and religion, would be worth little if courts failed to uphold right of contract. The jurist flayed the Supreme Court decision.

Attorney Loren Miller had already argued for client Bryant Allen that 90 percent of those living in the affected area were Negroes or Mexicans and that the public school enrolled 80 percent students of the same racial ancestry.

10-3-44

In addition to the foregoing case, Friday Negro residents of famed Sugar Hill were served with a notice to get out of the houses recently purchased. This case comes up October 18th and affects some 25 families. In this District reside Ethel Waters, Noble Sissle, Ben Carter, Hattie McDaniel, Sidney P. Dones, Norman O. Houston, Mitchell Miles, Dr. Edward Bailey and others.

Two Suits Attack Residence Liberty

WASHINGTON

Two additional suits to enjoin colored persons from owning and occupying property covered by restrictive covenants were filed in the District Court Friday.

In one suit, Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Marth, 3540 Warder Street, Northwest, and Mrs. Maude I. Bradburn, 3534 Warder Place, are seeking to have Miss Maltida E. Matthews, 3531 Warder Street, vacate the premises and her ownership of the property set aside.

Two Covenants Involved

In the other, Mrs. Ella W. Atkins, 441 Luray Place, Northwest, is asking that Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Tate, 1911 Eleventh Street, Northwest, be enjoined from occupying property at 3310 Park Place, Northwest.

Both properties are covered by two restrictive covenants, one placed in deeds to all properties in the area developed by Midlaugh and Shannon, Inc., in 1907, and the other executed by property owners on June 19, 1930.

These covenants provide that the property shall never be rented, leased, sold, transferred or conveyed to any colored person.

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and Restrictive Covenants
Lovers have pitched into the fight to halt construction on the \$1,500,000 Federal Housing Project for Negro war workers in Chicago's West Chesterfield area. This was revealed in a crude, "anonymous" letter this week threatening the life of Miss Eliza

Ku Kluxers Join Fight On Chicago's
West Chesterfield Housing Project
By RICHARD BURNHAM
White Ku Klux Klaners
9-7-44

beth Wood, executive secretary of residents have named "West Chesterfield," a barrage of criticism and has steadily supported building of finally an organized fight was started by a group of its residents to stop the West Chesterfield project.

It came three days after Federal Judge Walter J. LaBuy ruled against a petition submitted by 200 Negro property owners of West Chesterfield who sought to end the housing project in their community.

Joining this anti-project clique, white opponents of Negro housing assailed the CHA for its stand in the West Chesterfield dispute.

The letter to Miss Woods stated: "The Vigilantes and Ku Klux Klan took law in their own hands and I think it was a good thing because there must have been people in the world then like you. . . . I am too impatient to wait for the due process of law which is being investigated at the present time. I think I should take the law in my own hands. . . ."

Attacking Jews as well as Negroes, the letter continued: "The clear thinking white people who want to see justice for all cannot appreciate you and your slinking, dirty, underhanded Jew accessories. . . . We cannot stop you . . . from putting the project here, but we can stop you from ever doing it again anyplace else."

This "warning," dated Aug. 30, was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by housing officials. Looked upon as the work of a "crackpot," observers nevertheless regarded it as an expression of the sentiment of enemies of public housing in the contested area.

Meanwhile, work on the comparatively small, 250-unit West Chesterfield housing project continued this week without interruption.

Whites Plus Black Anti-Negroes
But overshadowing construction of the units are the charges of "Negro hating Negroes" being hurled at opponents of the projects, many of whom are wealthy. Now standing alongside white fighters for restrictive covenants, some of them intimidated this week that they would take an abrupt "about face."

This step came when Floyd Haas, editor of the anti-Negro, anti-housing Calumet Index, joined the West Chesterfield clique in their court fight to halt construction of the projects.

"Yes, I'm in favor of restrictive covenants," Haas bluntly told the Chicago Defender. "They keep out an undesirable people. I feel just as award would be made in court for these other people do."

Aroused over what Ishmael P. Flory labor leader, termed an "allegiance of white restrictive covenanted property buyers. This is the ant and anti-Negro factions of Westchesterfield" — civic, labor and church leaders have called a mass meeting to further open the South Side Housing situation.

"Many of the opponents of the project are doctors, lawyers and real estate owners whose fine homes are made possible by the profits they make from their poor slum-dwelling clients whom they seek to bar from decent living accommodations," Flory remarked.

When the CHA first announced selection of the site in the small, differently developed area which

residents have named "West Chesterfield," a barrage of criticism and finally an organized fight was started by a group of its residents to stop building of the project.

Mostly well-to-do professional people, they contended that the new units would be for "slum dwellers;" would not be "up to the standards of their community;" would bring in "riff raff" and would be "temporary structures" which would depreciate the value of their property.

Immediately CHA officials—conscious of pressure from thousands of Negroes, already restricted to fire-traps imposed by prejudiced white residents — answered:

"We wish to make it clear that the CHA has said again and again that we are not building, as rumor would have it, a 'slum project.' . . . These homes are to be built for war workers and are to be sold after the war to private parties or to individual home owners. . . . It is the intention of the Authority to build attractive homes in a neighborhood which is considered one of the best in the city. The homes will be designed and constructed with the understanding of needs and values of the entire surrounding areas."

Despite these and other assurances from builders and contractors, the West Chesterfield Improvement Association, which contained most of the objectors, continued to bitterly oppose the project.

Some Walk Out
Other West Chesterfield residents, however, disgusted over the stand taken by their "Improvement Association" were led by Mrs. Idell Umbles to resign from the Association in protest over its actions. Owner of one of the most lavish and fashionable homes in the community, Mrs. Umbles assailed contentions that the new project would force a "deterioration" of homes in the community.

Another argument fostered by the Association and which subsequently fell through was the site selected was not the "most desirable" and that a cheaper plot could be had a few blocks away. They contended that many of the people who bought lots in the now-converted area were forced to sell to the government at a lower rate.

To this CHA officials answered that owners would be allowed to negotiate a fair price or that an award would be made in court for property sold at a loss. A part of the area now under construction had been previously barred to college and anti-Negro factions of Westchesterfield located on 93rd and South Parkway which is being built around white residents—not around the area which contains the Negro complainants.

Mrs. Roosevelt's Non-J.C. Views Blamed for Dee Cee Housing Jam

A declaration that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt must put the "kiss of death" to any public housing program when she plead there should be no race segregation in slum rehabilitation projections, recommendations for a segregated area in Washington for Negroes, and a vigorous protest against the "colored ghetto" plan featured the close of the slum redevelopment hearings before a Senate District sub-committee, Friday.

The name of Mrs. Roosevelt was carried into the hearings by Harry S. Wender, president of the Federation of Citizens Associations, who said her public statements that there should be no segregation as to race in public housing had been the sole reason why various groups had opposed the continuation of rehousing work by the National Capital Housing Authority.

"When Mrs. Roosevelt made the statement that public housing must be on a non-segregation basis, the people of the community who believe in segregation immediately condemned all public housing," Wender said.

Mr. Wender said he was not criticizing Mrs. Roosevelt for her views, which he said he felt sure she made with "all the best intentions in the world" and not with the intention of influencing anybody.

The racial angle bobbed up again when Alfred Calvert, president of the Lincoln Park Citizens' Association, declared:

"No matter what kind of slush the social workers hand out, people are not going to live in mixed racial groups."

"Mixing Not God's Plan"

Calvert recommended a segregated area for Negroes, like New York's Harlem, with separate schools, churches, and parks. He attacked the Washington Housing Association as consisting of "society" men and women "who papers."

He protested that the buying like to see their names in the by colored people threatened loss of "millions of dollars" of value to Lincoln Park homeowners. "Mixing of the races is not wise or according to God's plan," he

Calvert said he and others had been working for many years to improve conditions of colored people in their own neighborhoods.

As Calvert left the stand, Mrs. Geneva Valentine, representing the Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations, moved forward and declareds "My first reaction was to ask that this testimony be stricken from the record. Now I want it to stand as an indictment of people of his (Calvert's) character."

Senator Burton, who presided, warned the speakers that the committee was not a forum for personal controversy.

After describing a number of slum areas and saying there is a need for the continued operation of the NCHA, Mrs. Valentine continued:

Harrassed by Covenants

"Restrictive covenants against Negroes living in even the most ordinary neighborhood have made it most difficult for foresighted, courageous families to house their loved ones.

"When they have the nerve and determination to go into a changing neighborhood, purchasing a home at a cost far above its actual value, spending several thousand dollars to improve its physical appearance, they have sometimes been humiliated, threatened, and in one case, had the experience of being bombed, to say nothing of the times they have been forced to vacate and go back to overcrowded, undesirable surroundings."

Hearings on the same subject were resumed on Tuesday of this week before the McGehee subcommittee of the House District Com-

Before the demise of the Burton Committee, Senator The Man Bilbo named a new sub-committee headed by Senator Walsh (Dem., N. J.), despite the seven months' hearings held by Senator Burton. Senator Walsh has indicated his group will not begin consideration of the various housing bills until the House group has finished with witnesses. The Burton group will turn over a report to Senator Walsh's unit.

The Emergency Committee on Housing has approved in principle the MacCarran and Capper Bills pending, but opposed the Tydings-Randolph "free enterprise" bill.

Representatives of all Negro civic and welfare organizations who make up the committee, have instructed their chairman, Mrs. Virginia G. McGuire, former school board member, to testify before the House committee headed by Mississippi's Representative McGehee.

Housing Barrier Laid to Catholics

Baltimore, Md.

PHILADELPHIA
Allegations that a Catholic church was responsible for his inability to rent an apartment house at 2721 Diamond Street were filed with the NAACP, last week, by James Walker of 2127 N. Twenty-ninth Street.

According to Walker, his deposit for the rental of the property was accepted by the Provident Trust Company more than two months ago and arrangements were made whereby he would pay \$70 monthly rent.

Last week, however, the company is said to have returned his money with the brief explanation that no colored people are wanted in the block.

Priests Deny Guilt
When questioned by the AFRO,

the Rev. J. P. Green and W. Doyle, priests at the Church of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lady at Twenty-eighth and Diamond Streets, which Walker named in his complaint, denied any knowledge of the alleged discriminatory act. "Why should we oppose colored people moving into the neighborhood when we admit their children to our school?" the Rev. Mr.

Government Agency Jacks Up Prices on Houses

Even in New York HOLC Makes Buying
Property Difficult for Colored Prospects

By FRANKLIN MARSHALL

NEW YORK — If you're colored and wish to buy a home in New York on the HOLC plan, be prepared to have your application marked "colored prospect" and a reconsideration proposal handed you raising the original price of the home and also the down payment.

This is exactly what happened to Miss Daphne Herbert after she and her family decided to purchase a two-family house located at 3316 Ninety-seventh Street, Corona, L.I., and filled out the necessary application forms which they gave to their broker along with a \$100 deposit.

Government Worker

In an exclusive interview with the AFRO, Miss Herbert, who resides with her mother and younger brother in an apartment at 960 Tinton Avenue, Bronx, and is a microfilm operator for the Office of War Information in this city, revealed the discriminatory treatment she received from the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, a U.S. governmental agency:

"On August 6," she related, "we decided to purchase this home and were told by our broker, Mr. Garrison, of the Corona Realty Company, that the property was to be bought for \$6,500, \$800 down and \$59.60 per month thereafter."

Down Payment \$800

"I read the contract which stated that a cash down payment of \$800 was essential to gain title to the property. We liked the house so much that we even told Mr. Garrison that we would be willing to give the HOLC \$1000 as a down payment."

"The following day, I filled out a number of application forms which I gave to the broker and also handed him \$100 as a deposit. On August 10, he sent me more forms which I filled out and returned to him. Meanwhile, they investigated us and asked our present landlord about our financial status and dependabilities."

Marked "Colored Prospect"

"A week later, Garrison informed us that since our occupancy of the house in question would make us the only colored home owners on the block, the HOLC could not allow us to occupy it as they did not wish to set a precedent."

"It seems that Garrison had

submitted our application to the local HOLC office at Jackson Heights where it was first turned down — and later marked 'colored prospect.' I saw it marked that way.

"My mother also received a phone call from the HOLC and it wanted to know whether she was colored. Naturally, she told them she was."

Price Increased \$500

"The final letter I received from the HOLC said that the only terms on which we would be accepted would be to reconsider an increase in price of the home of \$500, and increase in the down payment making it \$2,000 instead of \$800 as was originally asked."

"In other words, they jacked up the price of the house from \$6,500 to \$7,000 and more than doubled the down payment."

"I believe that this is discrimination of the first order. They don't want us to buy the house because we're colored and are scaring us away from it by raising the price."

"It's a shame because I have one brother in the army at Camp Lee, Va., and my younger brother, who is turning 18, will be drafted soon into the service. Is this what we colored people are fighting for?"

To Fight for House

"Our broker, Mr. Garrison, seems to take the whole thing rather lightly. I guess it's because he has ties with the HOLC and doesn't want to antagonize it and lose his income. However, my mother and I want this home very badly and we're not going to give up the fight."

"We've already scraped together \$1500 and are going to raise the full \$2,000 even if we have to borrow it and go into debt. I'm a militant person and believe in fighting against discrimination. It's not only for my personal good but also for the welfare of all colored people who will want to buy HOLC homes in the future."

NAACP to Help

"I think that by our buying that house we'll be calling their bluff. They won't be able to keep us out if we show them we've got the money to pay for it."

The NAACP, to whom Miss Herbert first appealed her case, has already gone to bat for her through the efforts of Edward R. Dudley, assistant special counsel. Correspondence with the HOLC

revealed that it is insistent that the Herberts meet the new price of the home as set by them. It absolutely refuses to recognize Mr. Dudley's accusation that this represents a "clear-cut case of discrimination."

Denies Discrimination

At the main office of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, located at 2 Park Avenue, I spoke to Mr. Snover, an official of this government agency.

His answers were vague and he denied that discrimination was used against prospective home buyers.

"The HOLC does not discriminate against colored people," he told the AFRO. "You must realize that we often have to raise the prices of homes because there are so many bidders for them."

HOLC Alibis

"It sometimes happens that we have to refuse people the privilege of buying homes on the HOLC plan for their own good and for the good of the people living in the district."

"For instance, it wouldn't be to the advantage of a colored family to purchase a home in a section where only white families live. There might be trouble and they might have to give up the property because of this situation."

"We don't want that to happen. We want all people who buy homes from us to keep them; and if there are considerations involved, we would rather turn down an application and refer them to some other location where they can be happier."

"There are many reasons why we raise prices of homes after applications are given in, and sometimes even turn them down."

"That's all I can tell you now."

Personal Observations:

By his own admission, Mr. Snover of the HOLC proved that discrimination is practiced by his agency. For some reason or other, the HOLC has exceeded its authority by making itself the sole judge of where colored people can buy homes.

Their wishy-washy explanation about "keeping the peace" by segregating colored home owners from whites is in line with Hitler's policies.

They are not promoting race harmony by not permitting colored and white people to live together in the same community. Besides, they have no basis to presuppose that there would be trouble if this were so. There are many sections of the Bronx and Brooklyn where people of both races live contentedly.

Miss Herbert is right when she says that this "is discrimination of the first order."

Section Not Lily-White

The Herbert family deserves a lot of credit for refusing to be denied the rights and privileges

of all human beings. The fact that they are willing to go into debt to buy the home even though they know that they are being discriminated against shows that they don't want to take jim crow and swallow it.

AFRO investigations revealed that the neighborhood in question is not entirely lily-white. It is a mixed community with many colored families living only a block away from the house which the Herberts want to buy.

Cop Hires Detroit Youth To Burn Negro Homes

DETROIT—In a confession made to the prosecutor and police officials Friday, a Detroit policeman was accused of hiring a white paroled convict to set fire to homes, recently purchased by the Watson Realty company, in an area where the policeman owns property.

Patrolman Samuel P. Boehm, white, who has been a member of the force for 18 years, is the accused officer. He has been suspended and is detained for investigation of arson.

Boehm was named by William Hickey, white, 22, and his cousin, Robert Ball, also 22, Dearborn, who said the policeman paid them \$85 for setting fire to three houses and had offered them \$25 for each additional house they burned.

Held As Arsonists

Hickey, on parole on a breaking and entering conviction, and Ball are held on arson charges. Hickey also faces charges of assault with intent to kill—the outgrowth of a shooting in the Fort-Green precinct station garage Wednesday afternoon when Hickey tried to escape from the police.

Boehm, 47, was arrested following the confession of Hickey and Ball. He denied the charges of his two accusers, describing himself as the victim of "an imbecile, who has epileptic fits and hates policemen."

Moreover, Boehm said his accuser was a man he had befriended — "because I felt sorry for him."

"I've known him and his family for two or three years," said Boehm, "and I've given him lots of odd jobs and got him others—just because I felt sorry for him. But I never paid him or anyone else any money to do the things he apparently has said I paid him to do. I don't own any houses within two miles of those that were burned."

Fire Three Houses

Hickey and Ball admitted setting fire to three vacant houses in the subdivision recently purchased by the Watson Realty company, of which Everett I. Watson, who has

an appeal with John W. Roxborough before the United States Supreme Court on a graft conviction following the grand jury investigation of numbers here in 1940, is president.

There are 340 lots in the new subdivision, located in the southwest section of Detroit, including 19 homes. The total purchasing price was \$125,000, and the Watson Realty company plans construction of new homes at a cost of \$1,500,000. The area is occupied exclusively by white families, and the real estate company's investment caused a strong resentment in the neighborhood and the South Detroit Community League, an "improvement association," was organized to fight Negro occupancy of the houses. Patrolman Boehm was a member of the association, but, according to his lawyer, did not attend any meetings.

Boehm, who has been married and divorced, lives with his mother and sister near the street where the houses were burned, owns two homes and several lots in the immediate district, and also in outlying suburbs.

Implicates Cop

Hickey said Boehm approached him and asked him to burn the houses sold to the Watson Realty company. Hickey said he entered into the plot willingly as he was out of work and had been doing odd jobs for the policeman. He said he was discharged from a factory a year ago, a Negro employee taking his place.

The two men stole some fuel oil and gasoline from cars and trucks. They then made torches out of bottles and rags, broke into one of the houses and lighted the rags. They were on their way to set fire to another house when they were arrested after police had seen them handling gasoline cans.

Possibility of the arson plot arose when the Watson Realty company disclosed that the firm had received anonymous threatening letters. James Singleton, manager of the firm, said the notes warned against letting the houses. The notes were turned over to police.

The Watson Realty company announced the purchase of the new subdivision last week, Singleton explaining at that time that construc-

tion of new homes would start Monday, Al Lerner, Washington, D.C. 10-14-44

policy existing at 351 W 125 st, on the corner of St. Nicholas av, Louis Schmidt, owner of the house promised that apartments would be rented on a democratic basis in the future and that the practice of not admitting Negro tenants would be discontinued. 12-9-44

This week, however, Larry Washington, a furrier, 702 8th av, inquired about an apartment and was told there were no vacancies, and that "colored people don't live here."

The very next day a white friend, Mrs. Jeanette Cohen, applied for an apartment and was

Harlem Apartment Still
Refuses Negro Tenants

Follow-up: D.V.'s expense two weeks ago of the jimero

Monday, Al Lerner, Washington, D.C. 10-14-44

leave a deposit

dress, and wouldn't permit her to know the friend's name and address. owner became curious, wanted to the apartment for a friend, she explained that she wanted to rent

ment, 2nd floor front. When she shown a "gorgeous 6-room apart-

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"It seems that Garrison had set a precedent," 9-16-44

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The Herbert family deserves a lot of credit for refusing to be denied the rights and privileges of the first order.

Section Not Lily-White

Hickey and Ball admitted setting fire to three vacant houses in the Watson Realty company, of which Everett I. Watson, who has been charged with the arson, is a partner.

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Cop Hires Detroit Youth To Burn Negro Homes

DETROIT—In a confession made to the prosecutor and police officials Friday, a Detroit police officer admitted that he had hired a white paroled convict to set fire to homes, recently purchased by the Watson Realty company, in an area where the police man owns property.

Patrolman Samuel P. Boehm, who has been a member of the force for 18 years, is the accused. He has been suspended and a strong resentment in the neighborhood and the South Detroit Community League, an "improvement association," was organized to fight Negro occupancy of the houses. Patrolman Boehm was a member of the association, but, according to his lawyer, did not attend any meetings.

Boehm, who has been married and divorced, lives with his mother and sister near the street where the houses were burned, owns two homes and several lots in the immediate district, and also in outlying suburbs.

Hickey, on parole on a breaking and entering conviction, and Ball, who was charged with the arson, are held on arson charges. Hickey also faces charges of assault with intent to kill—the outgrowth of a shooting in the Fort-Green precinct station garage Wednesday afternoon when Hickey tried to escape from the police.

Boehm, 47, was arrested following the confession of Hickey and out of work and had been doing odd jobs for the policeman. He denied the charges of his two accusers, describing himself as the victim of "an imbecile, who has epileptic fits and hates police-men."

Moreover, Boehm said his accuser was a man he had befriended for two or three years, said Boehm, and I've known him and his family houses and lighted the gas. They were on their way to set fire to another house when they were arrested after police had seen them handling gasoline cans.

Possibility of the arson plot arose when the Watson Realty company disclosed that the fire had been set by Hickey and Ball. The notes were turned over to police.

The Watson Realty company, of which Everett I. Watson, who has been charged with the arson, is a partner.

The Watson Realty company, of which Everett I. Watson, who has been charged with the arson, is a partner.

Monday, Al Lerner, Washing-

4-6-C1

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ton's white co-worker, inquired early in the afternoon about whether there was a vacant apartment. The superintendent told him there was and showed him the same apartment that Mrs. Cohen had seen. Ten minutes later when Washington asked about a vacancy, he was again told—this time in the presence of a PV reporter—that no apartments were available. 12-9-44

Whites Dislike Living in Afro American - Baltimore, Md. Block with Soldier's Wife

Those With Kin Under Hitler's Heel Would Bar Colored Family from Baker Street Block

By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BALTIMORE

White residents of the 1800 block of Baker Street, several of them members of a minority group themselves, have expressed opposition to occupancy of 1819 by a colored woman war worker, wife of an overseas service man.

The residents with whom I talked Thursday indicated that while they objected to a colored family living in the block, they had not stooped to methods of violence to get them out.

This is the block where twice within the past three weeks the home of Mrs. Vernice C. West has been stoned and windows broken. In the latest attack Sunday, large bricks narrowly missed occupants of the house. Immediate neighbors declare that this vandalism is the work of hoodlums who reside in the surrounding neighborhood. 10-14-44

Nevertheless, while they contend they themselves are not the vandals, none indicated he would take steps to halt this un-American destruction of property.

They Can't See Hitlerism

It is amazing that several of the residents are Jews and that while the type of treatment their colored neighbor is receiving here at home is so similar to that which their own relatives are receiving in Germany, they do not speak out against it.

Police have promised that in the future the West family will have adequate protection from hoodlums. Mr. West is in the army in France and Osceola Conway, Mrs. West's brother, is serving in Italy.

Residents Talk for AFRO

Here is what the residents of the block had to say:

1801—Isaac Silverstein (shoe repairman): "For me, I don't care, but this block isn't for colored

people." 10-14-44

1802—Mrs. George Fifer: "I don't approve of it. Don't they know what happened six years ago? They wouldn't want white people to move into their neighborhood." (In 1939, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Randall occupied the same house and were forced out by vandals.)

1803—Mrs. Luciana: "I'm from the Eastern Shore and I think they should be kept in their place."

"We Signed a Petition"

1805—Mrs. Morris Schneider, owner: "We signed a petition to keep them out six years ago. What happened to that?"

1806—Mrs. Marie Fall: "I don't think a damn thing about it. I think people should know better than to move into a section where they know they aren't wanted."

1808—James C. Burke: "I'm sorry to see it. You know what it does to a neighborhood."

1804—Jacob Ott (contractor), owner: "We're very much opposed to it. It happened before and we had trouble. We'll never agree to it. I wouldn't take any kind of money to be them living in that house." 10-14-44

He Can't Say a Thing

1809-11—Louis Dulow (tavern) owner: "I'm in business. I can't say one thing or another."

1810—Mrs. Stefino Gambino: "I don't like it too much but it's a not my house. I can move."

1813—Conrad Schmehl (grocer) owner—No comment.

1817—Martin N. Schnapper: "I don't care as long as they don't bother me, but I don't like living right next to them."

1825—Samuel Stromberg: "Makes no difference to me."

1827—Samuel Goodman (owner): "All people are created equal. I know, but colored people don't behave right. The property will go down."

Arson Charged in Afro American Housing Dispute

Baltimore, Md. Detroit Homes Owned

by Watson Company OFFICER ACCUSED

2 Admit Getting \$85 for Burning 3 Homes

DETROIT — In a confession made to the prosecutor and police officials Friday, a white Detroit policeman was accused of hiring a white paroled convict to set fire to homes recently purchased by the Watson Realty Co., in an area where the policeman owns property.

Samuel P. Boehm of the Fort Green Station, the accused officer, has been suspended and a warrant charging him and two others with arson was signed Monday after he obtained his freedom on \$2,000 bond at a hearing on a writ Saturday.

Boehm was named by William Hickey, white, 22, and his cousin, Robert Ball, also 22, of Dearborn, who said the policeman paid them \$85 for setting fire to three houses and had offered them \$25 for each additional house they burned.

Faces Assault Charge

Hickey, on parole on a breaking and entering conviction, also faces charges of assault with intent to kill, the outgrowth of a shooting in the Fort-Green Station garage Wednesday afternoon when Hickey tried to escape from the police. 10-14-44

Boehm, 47, who was arrested following their confession, denied the charges, describing himself as the victim of "an imbecile, who has epileptic fits and hates policemen."

Boehm admitted befriending Hickey, but denied having paid him or anyone else to fire the houses, adding, "I don't own any houses within two miles of those that were burned."

Cost \$125,000

The sub-division, located in the Southwest section of Detroit, contains 340 lots and 19 homes, and was purchased for \$125,000. The Watson Realty Co. plans construction of new homes at a cost of \$1,500,000.

The area is now occupied exclusively by white families who organized the "Improvement Association" to fight colored occupancy of the houses. Patrolman Boehm was a member of the association, but, according to his lawyer, did not attend any of the meetings.

Legal Action Begun

The Association instituted legal action in Wayne County Circuit

Court last week to prevent colored occupancy, setting up in the bill particulars that a printer's error caused the restrictive covenant to expire in 1929 instead of 1959. 10-14-44

Boehm lives with his mother and sister near the street where the homes were burned, and owns two homes in the immediate district and others in nearby suburbs.

Hickey admitted that they stole some fuel oil and gasoline from cars and trucks, made torches out of bottles and rags, broke into one of the houses and lighted the rags.

They were on their way to set fire to another house when they were arrested after police had seen them handling gasoline cans, he added.

Had Received Warnings

Possibility of the arson plot arose when James Singleton, manager of the company, disclosed that the firm had received anonymous threatening letters warning against letting the houses to colored people. The notes were turned over to police. 10-14-44

The Watson Realty Co. announced the purchase of the new sub-division last week, Singleton explaining at the time that construction of new homes would start within 30 days, and would be completed by March, 1945.

Everett I. Watson, president of the realty company, is now appealing a graft conviction before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Move Out White Neighborhood

A week was given the tenants to find new homes when they explained that Henry Reichard, who is their renting agent, did not inform them they had to move. Reichard is said to have leased the building from the Lake View Trust and Savings Bank.

Whites Object to Program to Build Hotel in Mobile

By E. M. GOODE

MOBILE, Ala., (ANP) — The United Seamen's union several months ago authorized that two hotels be provided in the city of Mobile for seamen—one for Negroes and one for whites. The port committee was successful in securing a commodious building in the commercial district which was renovated for use by the white seamen. The task of finding a suitable building for Negroes has been far more difficult.

4-8-44

Recently the Negro division of the support committee approved a building for the Negro hotel but old James Crow, who is ever on the alert, whispered to some of the residents of the vicinity that they had a right to object. This objection was voiced to the city commissioners last week.

The zone in which the building is located is defined under existing statutes as commercial but the objectors are seeking to prove that it is "predominantly residential." If this fact can be established the zone may be changed and the hotel cannot be blocked.

Right to Home in *Afro American* Md. County Won

Baltimore, Md.
TOWSON, Md.—Miller Bates
34, Brooklyn, N.Y., window wash-
ing company executive, has won
his fight to buy a \$6,000 piece of
property in the Bare Hills sec-
tion of Baltimore County, for forty-
one years barred to colored per-
sons because of restrictive cove-
nants. 9-16-48

He won the right when Michael Scholates, white, an ornamental limestone shop owner in the area, who tried to prevent the property sale, recently gave up attempts to carry the case to the Court of Appeals.

Judge J. Howard Murray, of the Circuit Court, had ruled in July that restrictive covenants are enforceable only in real estate developments of a set pattern.

Mme. Stueckgold Says Building's

Agents Object to Her Negro Pupils

By EARL CONRAD and

Mme. Grete Stueckgold, long a Metropolitan Opera prima donna, now a singing teacher, today charged the real estate firm of Wood, Dolson Co., Inc., with trying to oust her from her penthouse apartment at 260 W. End Ave. because 10 of her pupils are Negroes and use the regular passenger elevator.

She denies that the reason the agents gave for ordering her to vacate, violation of a rule in her lease prohibiting vocal instruction, is the real basis for objection to her tenancy. She points out:

¶ Two other singing teachers in the building have not been asked to leave.

¶ She gave vocal instruction for the most four years in the building and the management did not protest until recently, when the number of her Negro pupils increased.

¶ The agents canvassed some
other tenants to find out whether
they objected to the Negro stu-
dents.

A spokesman for the OPA (Office of Price Administration) said flatly:

he "What is at the base of this
ngtuation is the color question.

1. Macfarlan, vice president of Wood, Dolson Co., Inc.) office and was not in. But I left word with his secretary that Mme. Stueckgold

must stay. She has agreed to get a studio elsewhere in which she will teach. She can remain where she is, and she can go on singing, and her pupils can even drop in there for a social basis and sing if they want to. "The firm can not stop that."

Sang at Met

Vikingsque Mme. Stueckgold, who sang at the Met for 15 years, as well, on occasion, in the White House, most of the capitals of Europe, and in Covent Garden, London, told PM in the richly decorated apartment from which Wood, Dolson want to divorce her, that she took her first Negro pupil less than 18 months ago.

He is William Bodkin, of 21-25

W. 110th St., who will make his debut with the New York Little Symphony Orchestra about Dec. 1.

She now has 12 white and 10 Negro students. 8-31-44

After a formal notice from the agents a few months ago that her lease would expire soon and soliciting her continued residence in the building for another year, she got nothing until Aug. 11. Then came a curt note from Macfarlan informing her that she had violated a lease regulation by giving singing lessons, asking her to discontinue the vocal work at once, and concluding:

"We wish further to advise that, upon expiration of your lease, Sept. 30, 1944, the landlord does not wish to renew your lease, and this is to notify you that it will expect and demand you to surrender possession of the apartment at that time."

Started Investigating

"Ordinarily," said Mme. Stueckgold, "when one violates a house ruling, especially after having occupied the place for four years, you would expect the management to ask that the violation cease, and then, if there is no compliance, action might be expected."

"But in this case the procedure was: stop teaching, and, also, get out. It aroused my suspicions at once."

h She did a little investigating and
d as a result, wrote the agents:

Your complaints, however, I am well informed, concern some of my American dark-skinned pupils. Your office, as I am quite well aware, has called on several tenants, even on non-Americans, to inquire whether or not they objected to those colored American students.

"These people, as well as anyone else, have shed their blood, paid taxes and are yet fighting for America. And I cannot see why they can't be treated as American citizens with equal rights, respect and privileges. We are fighting a war to end racial hatreds and I fear that you are breeding prejudice in your office."

Checked on Negroes

8-31-44

"I am an international artist and I am proud to give my knowledge to everyone, regardless of race, creed or color. If the First Lady of our country sees fit to welcome Marion Anderson, Paul Robeson and many others who also were once young students, I am very proud, in my humble way, to help further these ambitious people."

Edward Dalitz, the building superintendent, asserted that Mme Stueckgold's singing lessons had disturbed many tenants and revealed a check had been made on the number of her Negro callers.

"The elevator men kept a record of the Negroes going up and down the elevator to her place," he said and added, when asked if any tenants objected to Negroes riding the elevators:

"Some individuals would object and have objected. The callers were of a high type, but there was a continuous flow of them in the elevators."

A PM reporter learned from neighbors on three upper floors that some heard and did not like the singing lessons, that others did not mind. All had seen Negroes in the elevators; none said they had any objection to this. One woman acknowledged having been asked by the management if she objected to the Negro pupils. She did not. Macfarlan told PM he did not believe it was a public matter when his firm was accused by a tenant of discrimination.

"Our relations with our tenants is a private matter. That's our own contract. We don't have to answer to a newspaper or anyone else about such a relationship. I neither

confirm nor deny her accusation. If she wants to think up such things, that is her business." 8-31-44

y Asked how he and his firm would
s. act if a Negro sought tenancy in the
ll building, Macfarlan said: "We
a-would probably find some gracious
u-way of not admitting the tenant."
d The Equitable Life Insurance
s. Co. owns the building.



Loretta Williams and Mme. Steuckgold, with Marguerite Jemmott and Nora Evans seated at the piano.

COURT RULES OUT NEIGHBORHOOD BAN

Argus - St. Louis, Mo.
Suit Over 4600 North Market Fought 3 Years

A neighborhood restriction case, which began in March, 1941, and was highlighted by bitter legal battles and several stinch bombings of homes in the area involved, was terminated victoriously for Negro residents July 3. On that date the St. Louis Court of appeal sustained a decision by Judge Robert L. Aaronson invalidating a covenant entered into in 1922 restricting Negro residents from properties in a district bounded roughly by North Market street and Easton avenue and Cora avenue and Marcus avenue.

The specific suit involved property bought by Prof. Scovel Richardson, now on leave from Lincoln U. law school, at 4635 North Market street. Then followed a legal battle in which Atty Silas E. Garner assisted Atty. Richardson against the Real Estate Exchange trustees, in the fight all the way to the court

of appeals. 7-7-44
When questioned concerning the case, Atty. Garner stated that it revealed that Negroes must fight for their rights on technical grounds instead of on the high principle of common justice. In other words, every time a Negro is sued on one of these exclusion instrument he will have to seek some technical ground of defense. Atty. Garner stated that judgments of several such cases are yet pending in the courts.

Ghettos In Capital Rise Without People's Protests

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.
9-30-44
New "Developments" Concentrate Negro Within Set Range

WASHINGTON (ANP) — Slowly but surely, with methodical precision, during the past 12 years, and with congressional or administration approval, Negro ghettos known as "developments" are being constructed in the North East and South East Anacostia sections while Washingtonians of the Negro race complacently accept the dictates of the southern directed at mand fast are losing their grip on lands in the beautiful and valuable Northwest area.

Quietly, without fanfare, this has been going on steadily with all kinds of inducements being offered Negroes to bring them to move without any semblance of pressure into an area developed for them in a lowland lying on the other side of 15th and H St., North East, adjoining the Anacostia river.

Making Money

Private corporations have been busy buying land and erecting "quickies" in this area which they sell to Negroes at exorbitant prices. Now the post war plans for this area are considerable, calling for golf course, high schools and even the erection of schools, playgrounds, the uncalled for transfer of Minor Teacher's college from its present site opposite Howard University, way out on Benning road in the North East area 9-30-44

For years, Negroes have owned valuable properties in the North West, which is the best section of the city—including properties on 16th St., one of the exclusive streets in the city, on "I" and "K" streets on the heights and all over town. Georgetown, the oldest part of the city, is eagerly sought now as a residential area by whites who fall in love with the antique homes in that area and pay ridiculously low sums of money to the Negro owners. The effort is to get all the Negroes out of the North West section—move them into other areas where they can be controlled or supervised without difficulty.

Taking Choice Sections

Under the guise of giving the Negroes something, the planners are taking from the Negro the little that he has left in the city. As in New York, Negroes occupy now what is the choicest section of Washington. When first they moved into North West the University was in the country, the street car lines topping in front of the ball park and Florida Ave. Now this section has developed and through it

passes all of the traffic downtown, ninety percent of those living in the and all traffic north and south bound affected area were Negroes or Mexican-Americans and that the public school enrolled eighty percent of its students of the same racial ancestry.

Meanwhile, all kinds of improvements in buildings and areas occupied by whites are being planned. Recently, Negro residents of the including the condemning of old buildings to make way for others—although in the case of the Negroes residing in the North West, where they still predominate, more living here than in other sections of the city, no such action is planned.

At the present rate of expansion, Negroes soon will occupy most of the area adjacent to and adjoining Central High School, the million dollar edifice which overlooks the city, just four or five blocks north of U St., the heart of Negro district. Central is a white school.

Evicted From White Section In Angel City

Negro Residents On Coast Affected by New Decision On 'Areas for Caucasians'

By LAWRENCE F. LAMARR

LOS ANGELES—Negro residence and citizenship, generally, was affected here recently by a judicial decision which may cause the wholesale eviction of Negroes from their recently-purchased properties.

The 34-page decision, handed down by Judge William J. Palmer, was to the effect that a covenant entered into by the owners of approximately 400 lots—and restricting sale or occupancy to those other than of the Caucasian race—was sufficient to enjoin Bryant Allen, a Negro defendant, and twenty-five other colored families from living in a residential block between Main and Broadway on Fiftieth Street.

The case, tried on a stipulated case of facts, ruled out a State Supreme Court opinion in the Pasadena case of Fairchild vs. Rains, where Judge Roger Traynor had written a separate concurring opinion basing the theory that a changing condition of a neighborhood softened the contract in a manner that could be avoided by a number of contractees. 10-14-44

The trial judge ruled that a contract was binding, arguing that constitutional guarantees under the 14th Amendment, freedom of speech and religion, would be worth little if courts failed to uphold the right of contract. The jurist flayed the Supreme Court decision.

Attorney Loren Miller had already argued, for Bryant Allen, that

Editor Tells Of Perils In Alabama Bus Riding

Heartaches Encountered By Negroes Are
Described By Birmingham Newspaperman

BIRMINGHAM (ANP)—Bus riding in Alabama during these days of war-time congestion provides some bitter experiences, concludes Emory O. Jackson, managing editor, Birmingham World, who tells of his trip from Birmingham to Tuscaloosa.

"I saw a bus pull out of the Tuscaloosa station here Oct. 11 with a load of white people, leaving three Negro girls, en route to Birmingham to layover until the next day. No Negro was riding," Jackson writes.

"Lunch accommodations at every stop for Negroes is bad, disgraceful and at times revolting. Such conditions are true in Birmingham as all over Alabama where I have traveled.

"Food is poked to Negro bus riders at bus depots through a hole shooting into the kitchen. The dishwasher is usually the waiter for Negro passengers. There is nothing that imitates a coffee shop or cafe. With white passengers it is different. They have clean, neat waitresses and a cafe.

"When I came back to Tuscaloosa en route to Birmingham, I saw a 34-person capacity bus pick up every white passenger coming to Birmingham, leaving me, a soldier and another Negro passenger, to lay-over in the cold waiting room until the next morning.

"Two Negro passengers were on the bus when it arrived from New Orleans. Two others were taken on. The bus driver explained that only standing room was available for white people, but that all Negro passengers would have to wait until the next morning. Not a single white passenger who wanted to board the bus was denied.

"I protested this racial discrimination to the passenger agent, who told me that the bus driver was in complete charge. He added that government regulations forbade overloading.

"A porter named Anderson let me know that 'white folks run this town' when I inquired of him whether this was a regular practice of the bus company. The porter became excited when I insisted that I was entitled to ride the bus.

"Soldiers have often told me stories of being stranded in Alabama cities while bus drivers take on white passengers only. I have watched buses leaving Birmingham do the same thing. They did it to me Friday morning, October 13, in Tuscaloosa."

OBJECT TO HOTEL FOR RACE SEAMEN

By E. M. GOODE

MOBILE, Ala.—(ANP) — The United Seamen's union several months ago authorized that two hotels be provided in the city of Mobile for seamen—one for Negroes and one for whites. The port committee was successful in securing a commodious building in the commercial district which was renovated for use by the white seamen. The task of finding a suitable building for Negroes has been far more difficult.

Recently the Negro division of the port committee approved a building for the Negro hotel, but old jim-crow, who is ever on the alert, whispered to some of the residents of the vicinity that they

had a right to object. This objection was voiced to the City Commissioners last week.

The zone in which the building is located is defined under existing statutes as commercial, but the objectors are seeking to prove that it is "predominantly residential." If this fact can be established, the zone may be changed and the hotel can be blocked. The city attorney pointed out that the Supreme Court of the United States had ruled that "you can't pass laws discriminating" between white and colored persons, and that under this ruling the city would not have authority to ban any Negroes from occupying buildings at specified places.

RESIDENTIAL AREA BARRED TO NEGROES

LOS ANGELES—A recent decision by Superior Judge Roy V. Rhodes, which, in effect, barred Negroes from owning or occupying property in the area bounded by Firestone boulevard, Zamora street, East 92nd street and Central avenue, was sustained last week by the State Appellate Court.

In upholding the right of property owners and subdividers to restrict residential areas to "members of the Caucasian race," the Appellate Court ruled that "the right to contract with reference to their own property is one that is preserved to all citizens and is a right which the people of all races may exercise freely."

ACTION AGAINST NEGROES

The current "restrictive covenant" case grew out of action of white property owners in taking out an injunction to prevent two Negroes, Henry Laws and Lee Lofton, from occupying property within the 500-lot area.

Amplifying its action in sanctioning restriction of the residential area to whites only, the Appellate Court judge asserted that "non-Caucasians are always and always have been just as free to restrict the use of and occupancy of their property to members of their own race as have been Caucasians."

WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

By TED LE BERTHON



Mr. Le Berthon

IN recently upholding the "right" of property owners and subdividers to restrict residential areas to "members of the Caucasian race," the California Appellate Court asserted that "non-Caucasians" had the same "right" to restrict other areas to their own exclusive use. In short, segregation is "right" whether "Caucasians" or "non-Caucasians"

practice it, according to this ruling.

Higher courts are always supposed to clarify the rights of individuals and organizations as guaranteed by the Constitution and Bill of Rights, thus also clarifying the nature of democracy itself through its application to particular cases.

But can any court justly hold that democracy gives one the right to do wrong? Or that democracy gives one the right to be undemocratic, i.e., a snob? Obviously, all residential restrictions based on racial differences imply that members of one race think it is better than another race. This causes justifiable indignation and results in disunity. Can a court justly hold that it is democratic to create disunity?

It is clear that all such residential area restrictions plainly imply that one race is superior, another inferior, and that skin color, not spiritual, moral or intellectual worth, is the decisive factor.

A MORAL WRONG IS A LEGAL RIGHT

All such restrictions set races against each other, and whatever does that is against the teachings and spirit of Christ. Whatever makes for divisions, dissensions, or apartness, is the Satanic seed of hate, of which the final evil flower is murder. Whatever draws us together as brothers and equals is of Christ.

THE California Appellate court, however, has in effect ruled that a moral wrong is a legal right. It has hideously dared set the laws of God, on whom all of us are dependent for the very air we breathe, the food from His earth, the clothes from the wool of sheep He created, the shelter from the wood of trees He made. And because of just such spiritual blindness, there is no peace in the world.

DEMOCRACY MOCKED, CHRIST BLASPHEMED

There will be no peace anywhere unless the civil laws conform to Christ. Americans will be set against Americans so long as a hypocritical or idiotic judiciary upholds snobocracy against genuine democracy.

AS long as hotels and clubs can legally bar Jews from membership, and as long as Jim Crowism

is legally upheld, there will be unrest and resentment. As long as Negroes must live in modern American ghettos, and as long as newspapers that mouth democracy run classified house rental ads "for Gentiles only," there will smoulder anger and dark cynicism. As long as there are theatres, restaurants and dance halls where darkskinned human beings are excluded, democracy is mocked and Christ blasphemed.

For the inference is that all Gentiles are superior to all Jews, that any white person is superior to any Negro, and if this isn't Hitlerism I don't know what is. It's so nauseatingly absurd and so viciously unjust that it cries to Heaven for vengeance. It is the greatest cause of disunity.

DOUBLE TALK

Idiotic politicians and the kept white press blab on and on about "winning the peace" and post-war planning. But there can be no peace while such gross injustices seethe. There can only be "the maniac laughter of chaos."

THE sort of double talk that ran through the California Appellate court's ruling is downright tragically saddening. The men responsible for such rulings are lost, in the sense of having wandered far from Christ's simple, good humored truths into almost inextricable labyrinths of self deception. There can be no peace in such men, for they have lost their way. They mouth idiocies. They say one race has the "right" to insult and humiliate another, that this is an expression of democratic freedom. But I say that such rulings are the expressions of either hypocrites or idiots.

California

California Court

Upholds Moral Wrong

As a Legal Right

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-1-44

California Court Upholds Moral Wrong As a Legal Right

BY TED LE BERTON

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Courier--Pittsburgh, Pa. 4-1-44

Five Whites Bested in Battle To Oust Negro Property Owners

Tribune. Washington, D.C.

6-24-44

During the week as American minds, American skill, and American strength were trying to break the backbone of evil before Cherbourg, in Italy, and in the South Pacific, Justice Morris in the District Court gave a set-back to a vicious Washington evil—restrictive housing—by balking an attempt of five white citizens to invoke an anti-racial residential pact against Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Harlan, 3209 Thirteenth Street, Northeast.

Justice Morris' decision to dismiss the complaint, requested some days ago by Austin L. Fickling, attorney for the Harlans, came after legal pyrotechnic between Mr. Fickling and white counsel for the complaining quintet.

The jurist observed that it had not been proven that the Harlans had positive knowledge of the existence of the covenant on the property when they acquired title to the premises on February 20, 1941. Furthermore, it was noted that nothing was said touching this point in the complaint against the Harlans. This meant that proof would have to be produced that the Harlans had actual information on the covenant.

Listed Wrongly

If this point were not sufficient to have enabled Justice Morris to reach the conclusion which he did, the keen legal mind of Attorney Fickling had discovered an error in listing the property covered by the covenant.

The Harlans acquired title to Lot 37, at 3209 Thirteenth Street. The whites had erred, he emphasized to the court, in listing the lot number as 27. The white complainants admitted the error and tried to cover up with excuses.

In addition, Mr. Fickling discovered that the records of the District Title Company and of the Recorder of Deeds Office fail to show that there is a restrictive covenant on Lot 37.

Ten Days to Amend

The only balm the five white complainants received was permission by the court to file an amended petition within ten days. In view of the fact that they will

have to present absolute proof that the Harlans had knowledge of the covenant before occupying the premises, a difficult undertaking, they may submerge their prejudices. Their attorney, however, has indicated further battles.

The case is unusual in that Negroes do not often come out even as temporary victors in injunction suits filed against them under restrictive covenants.

High Court Is Asked to Rule

Celebrated Mays Case
Appealed in D.C.

EVILS ARE CITED
Jews and Catholics
May Be Next

By JOHN JASPER

WASHINGTON

The covenant of First Street, Northwest, white residents to exclude colored people from the area by writing restrictions in the deeds to homes in that section is a criminal conspiracy. Federal statutes provide a fine up to \$5,000 and imprisonment up to ten years, according to a brief filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals by Cobb, Hayes, and Ransom, last week.

Represent Mrs. Mays

The three attorneys represent Mrs. Clara L. Mays who purchased 2213 First Street, Northwest, February 17, 1944, from Consolidated Properties, Inc., for \$9,950, and later occupied the premises.

White neighbors, including William and Frances Burgess, H. P. Gumbrecht, Agnes B. Mulaskey, and Mary Carleton, secured an injunction in District Court ousting the Mays family on the ground that they and former owners had signed an agreement denying use

or occupancy of any property in that block by colored people.

The lower court, with Justice O'Donoghue presiding, granted the injunction, and Mrs. Mays, still occupying the residence, appealed.

All Have Same Rights

The brief cites an Act of Congress, 1866, declaring "all citizens shall have the same right . . . as is enjoyed by white citizens . . . to . . . purchase, leave, sell, hold and convey real . . . property."

"There is no doubt," it declares, "that a written agreement, solemnly executed and recorded as a deed, by a group of property owners to the effect that a person shall be deprived of his right to acquire property solely because of his race and color, is evidence of the highest order of a conspiracy to deprive such a person of a privilege and immunity protected by the Constitution and laws of the United States."

"The agreement alone is sufficient to constitute a crime."

High Court's Ruling

According to the brief, the Supreme Court has several times declined to enforce statutes, barring sale of property to and use by Chinese, Japanese and colored people in various States and cities.

It quotes *Gondolfo vs. Hartman* (49 Fed. Rep 181) in which a Federal court held it inadmissible for a citizen of a State to do by contract that which is forbidden to State or municipal legislatures.

"Any result inhibited by the Constitution can no more be accomplished by contract of individual citizens than by legislation," the brief states.

"And the court should no more enforce the one than the other. This would seem to be very clear."

No Permissible Distinction

"There can be no permissible distinction based on race, creed or color," the brief says, "if we are to remain a free and harmonious nation."

"To have it appear in the judicial annals of our court that one part of our citizenry may enter into contracts which are derogatory to another part is intolerable."

"If . . . citizens can vote together and serve under the same

flag . . . to say that part of them shall not breathe the same air or live in the same neighborhood . . . as the other part, is to sow seeds of discord . . ."

If the covenant is valid, it adds, it will not take long to extend the prohibition to Jews and Catholics.

Asked to Travel Back

Mrs. Mays' attorneys say they are aware that the courts have in the past declared such covenants legal. However, in their recent trends, higher courts have had no hesitancy in traveling back and re-examining questions in the light of circumstances and facts as they exist at present.

They ask that the Appeals Court take that step in this case and apply the law of today in keeping with present facts and justice.

Hate Covenant Honored; Afro American — Baltimore, Md. D.C. Home Owner Ousted

6-24-44

WASHINGTON

A restrictive covenant which will expire in two years was the basis for an order issued in the District Court Thursday requiring Mrs. Clara I. Mays to vacate her home at 2213 First Street, Northwest, within sixty days.

Justice Daniel W. O'Donoghue, who held the lily-white covenant valid despite the fact that the neighborhood is already well mixed, refused to allow Mrs. Mays to post a supersedeas bond to stay action pending an appeal.

Further efforts along this line, however, will be made in a direct petition to the Court of Appeals, according to James A. Cobb of the law firm of Cobb, Howard and Hayes, representing Mrs. Mays.

May Reach High Court

Ground for an eventual Supreme Court review was laid by raising the question that enforcement of the covenant would deprive Mrs. Mays of her property without due process of law, abridge her privileges and immunities as a citizen, and deny her equal protection of the law.

The home in question, purchased for \$9,900, has been occupied by Mrs. Mays since February 21. She is one of many colored residents of the neighborhood.

Other Suits Pending

Court action based on a similar covenant expiring November 1 is pending against colored persons who have purchased two houses in the 2100 block but have not yet moved in.

A number of other sales in the vicinity are said to be awaiting consummation at the expiration of covenant periods.

Whites Opposing Project Not So Concerned About Our Health

11-18-44

The cat is out of the bag!

We refer to the story last week about some of our good white friends, united in the National Gateway Citizens' Association, along with 140 residents in the area, who are opposing the erection of a 103-unit prefabricated war worker housing project at Montana and West Virginia Avenue, N. E., because it "may constitute a serious health hazard within itself and to the surrounding community."

This apparent concern for the health of the Negroes for whom the project was planned was viewed with suspicion at the outset because of the other uses used to oppose and thwart the construction of Negro housing in new areas adjacent to white neighborhoods.

SUBJECTS EXPOSED

The racial prejudice and intolerance underlying this concern was demonstrated on Monday night at a meeting of the Brentwood Terrace Citizens' Association when Norman Murray, president of the National Gateway Association, assailed the Mobile Federal Public Housing Authority for attempting to alleviate the Negro housing shortage.

He urged the Brentwooders to join the Gatewayers to aid the fight to stop the project in a predominantly white neighborhood.

He questioned:

"What will happen to our homes for which we have worked all our lives? The chicken coops are not fit for any person to live in."

He also wanted to know who would foot the bill for the project amounting to around \$259,500. Murray also took exception to the clean bill of health given the project by the District Health Department.

The Gateway Association recently appealed to President Roosevelt, the House District Committee and the District Commissioners to bring about abandonment of the project by the Federal Public Housing Authority.

Although professing concern over a "project likely to jeopardize the

health of any group of people," nowhere was the suggestion made, however, that adequate drainage facilities be included in the construction plans to safeguard the health of the

occupants against such hazards as are claimed to exist. The only proposal made was that they not be constructed.

11-18-44

In another meeting of the Brentwood Citizens' Association, the president, Jerome P. Lynch, denounced the fifty-two mobile units being built at Third and I Streets and Brentwood Road to ease shortage of proper housing for Negroes as doing them "an injustice, besides being unsanitary, unsightly, and a detriment to the District."

Tribune---Washington D. C. 11-18-44

Acquire a Colored Area

THE SENTINEL HAS suggested the purchase by the city of a tract of land of adequate size to be converted to residence for the negroes, where they may buy lots, build homes, have their parks and community centers without let or hindrance except the laws and ordinances that govern such things.

April 2, 1944

There have been controversies at intervals for years over questions of developments and subdivisions for colored people, and it is well to forestall all future arguments and objections by making this zoning provision now.

Tracts suitably located and of sufficient size can be acquired now without great cost and the negro sections can be properly inducted into the program of city planning, Orlando thus showing the intelligent way to other cities.

Orlando Fla. Morning Sentinel

WE BELIEVE THE negroes will become better citizens if they can have an area they may call their own wherein they may develop homes and institutions according to their needs, hopes and capacity to improve their properties and sections.

Colored people make good money when they work and how much better they would find it to spend part of that money on homes, lawns, gardens, furniture, proper diet, as well as schools, churches, places of recreation and other community benefits within their ability to achieve. The time for the city to move in this matter is now before the areas available are taken for some other purpose, which would make the adjustment more difficult than it would be at this time, and the financing we are sure would take care of itself through sale to negroes at a price to cover the city's outlay.

Petitions Protest Rezoning For Grove Negro Housing Land Sale Declared Pending

6-19-44
Land Sale
Declared
Pending

By ARTHUR L. HIMBERT
Herald Staff Writer

Petitions opposing the proposed rezoning of a 20-acre tract in the Coconut Grove area to permit construction of a negro housing project for war workers are being circulated for presentation to the Miami Planning Board which has called a public hearing on the proposal for July 3.

The Coconut Grove Civic club and the Coconut Grove American Legion post and auxiliary, as well as other organizations, have gone on record as opposing the project. Rt. Rev. John D. Wing, of Orlando, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of South Florida, said Sunday that the property on which the project is planned, and which is owned by the trustees of the diocese, had not been sold.

SALE STILL PENDING 6-19-44
He asserted that an offer had been made for the property by Fred Howland, Miami contractor and head of the St. Albans Housing Co., on condition that the Miami Planning Board re-zoned the area from a white to a negro classification.

Malcolm B. Wiseheart, attorney for Howland, had previously reported that the land had been purchased from the Protestant Episcopal Church, South, a small negro parish, by Howland, for \$21,000.

"There has been no sale of the property," Bishop Wing declared. Numerous protests against the proposed project and denials that the property had been sold by the Episcopal diocese were voiced Sunday by property owners and residents of the Coconut Grove area.

"We're not opposed to negroes having homes, but we believe there are plenty of other available locations in the city for such projects," declared A. L. Buzzell, a property owner on Kumquat ave.

He said many persons bought property in the area in the belief that the zoning question was settled in 1941, when the site was rezoned from a negro to a white area.

6-19-44
Old Negro
Settlement
Plan Revived

6-21-44
3 Housing Zones
Outside City Urged

By JACK THALE
Herald Staff Writer

A long-dormant plan for resettlement of Dade county negroes into three Bahama-type communities was revived and endorsed Tuesday night by a group of Coconut Grove residents opposing construction of a 50-unit negro housing project near them.

Girding for a finish fight before the planning board July 3 against rezoning of the property—approximately 20 acres running south and west from Douglas rd. and Thomas ave.—some 50 adjacent white owners formed themselves into an association to push the resettlement.

They acted after hearing a review of the resettlement plan by Robert Fitz Smith, former member of the city planning board and a member of the governor-appointed county planning council.

DRAFTED 7 YEARS AGO

Smith said the plan, approved by the county commission seven years ago as part of a general county improvement program, visualized three negro settlements. One west of the town of Perrine, one northwest of Opa-locka, and one at an undetermined location, probably west of Miami. Once the communities were established, no other small negro settlements would be allowed to grow up, Smith said, and there would be no enlargement of present areas.

All the communities would be surrounded by a green park area, reasonable architectural control would be exercised over the homes costing as little as \$500, and bus lines exclusively for the negro settlements would provide transportation, Smith explained.

Residents at the meeting Tuesday night asserted the proposed construction of the 50 duplex dwellings would be a hindrance rather than a help to the negroes in the area, since it would throw an even greater burden on already

taxed facilities, such as schools. They asserted that the tract in question, owned by the Protestant Episcopal church, had been definitely zoned as white property, and that the housing project would be an unwarranted and unnecessary encroachment on the white area.

FACING FIGHT

"We are faced with the fight of our lives," warned Martha Magruder, 3647 Loquat ave. "We are faced with the prospect of becoming one of the large colored areas of the city."

Under planning board regulations, a petition for rezoning an area may be presented if accompanied by waivers of objection from 10 per cent of the adjacent property owners.

However, if more than 20 per cent of the adjacent property owners file a protest against the rezoning at the ensuing public hearing, the use restrictions of the tract can be changed only by a two-thirds vote of the nine-man board. The petition for rezoning already has been filed by Fred Howland, Inc., contractor for the proposed housing project.

It was asserted at the meeting that Marion K. Manley, architect for the project, also is a member of the planning board and that it had been indicated she would not participate in the hearing on the proposed rezoning.

The meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Muir, 3736 Loquat ave., with Frank Havel as acting chairman.

Another meeting will be held Friday night at the home of James Picken, 3839 Kumquat ave., to select a name for the organization and elect officers.

64-1944

Georgia

Dynamite Two Atlanta Homes

~~Atlanta~~ - ~~Chicago, Ill.~~
ATLANTA—(ANP) — Detectives this week were investigating a plot, believed to have been instituted by angered white neighbors, to dynamite two residences into which Negro occupants moved three days before. The neighborhood previously had been all-white. **7-1-44**

The charge of dynamite, apparently set to go off the instant someone stepped on the porch of one of the houses, blew up the porch and tore off the whole front of the house when it was released by a newspaper thrown on the porch by a route carrier.

Examining the house next door, detectives found another charge of dynamite which had not been set off. No one was injured, police said.

Battle to Halt Northside Evictions; Judge Stops Ousters

Bee - Chicago, Ill.

8-2-44

Civic and interracial groups, condemning racial covenants that doom thousands of Chicago Negroes to live in substandard and overcrowded huses, came to the aid of 28 Negro families on the near north side last week to save them from immediate eviction from their homes.

Counsel for the Chicago Civil Liberties Union, Atty. Landon C. Chapman, succeeded Friday in obtaining a stay of eviction for the families in Judge Charles S. Daugherty's Renters court. The families will occupy the dwellings at 534-42 N. Wells until their counsel can appeal to an Appellate court.

Hit Restrictive Covenants

The case of the renters has gained the support, in addition to the Civil Liberties Union, of the NAACP, the committee to Invalidate Restrictive Covenants and the Illinois Inter-Racial Commission. In a statement issued Thursday the Illinois Inter-Racial Commission took a firm stand against restrictive covenants which prevent Negroes and other minorities from securing adequate housing in Chicago.

8-2-44

Pointing to the severe overcrowding caused by incoming Negroes being forced into an area "hemmed by walls of restrictive covenants and public and private apathy", A. Leon Bailey, executive director of the commission stated:

"The eviction of twenty-eight Negro families in Chicago, because of the existence of restrictive covenants against Negroes on the near north side, illustrates the gravity of the present situation and emphasizes the manner in which the enforcement of housing barriers can inflame racial feeling and aggravate racial tensions."

Fight to Outlaw Bans

The commission in a resolution committed itself to attempt to secure the passage of legislation at the next session of the General Assembly to outlaw restrictive covenants.

8-2-44

The eviction suit against the 28

families was brought by the Lake View Trust and Saving Bank, trustees of the property, against Henry Reichard, who leased the property from the bank and later subleased it to Henry Evans. The families rented from Evans.

A technicality in the lease banned the rental of the property to Negroes, according to Judge Daugherty's interpretation of the law. In a similar case last year Judge Samuel Heller refused to support restrictive covenants, stating that they were a denial of the basic democratic rights of the tenant.

Cite Housing Shortage

Although the buildings that the families occupy are in a poor state of repair and have inadequate sanitary facilities, the families would be hard pressed to find other lodging at present.

8-2-44

Judge Daugherty in handing down the decision stated the hope that the Appellate would settle the question of the legality of restrictive covenants once and for all. Until the Appellate court makes a decision the renters will continue to pay rent to the court.

White Vandals Strip Home, Set It Afire

Defender - Chicago, Ill.

11-4-44

Negro-hating, home-wrecking vandals of the most vicious type duplicated the terrorism of Hitler's Europe on the Southside last week when they wrecked and then set fire to a humble, frame house at 255 West 48th place that a colored woman had bought and hoped to call her home.

When Virginia Dobbins, 5626 Perry avenue, went to inspect the house on Oct. 14, preparatory to moving in, she found a man and a woman carting away the doors and window sashes in a wagon. The plumbing fixtures had been torn out, and a gang of boys were hurling stones at the remaining windows.

"How do you like your house now?" they jeered. The house had been demolished, only the charred skeleton remained. The man, who lives in the house next door, said calmly, "We don't want a race riot here, so we're tearing the house down. We don't want no trouble."

Set Fire to House

Two days earlier, shortly after the original owner had moved out, a small fire broke out in the empty house. It was quickly extinguished by the fire department, but the arsonists were not discovered.

Realizing that there was a move afoot to keep her out of the predominantly Polish neighborhood, Mrs. Dobbins went back to the house Saturday, Oct. 14. She discovered a man, who told her he lived next door, prowling through the vacant house. He told her he was "watching" the house.

Later that same day, Mr. Dobbins came upon a gang of hoodlums who were using the windows of her house as targets for their barrage of bricks.

"We were told to break 'em," they said as they hurried away.

The distraught owner reported the fire and the other act of vandalism to the Stockyards police station and appealed for protection. She was told that orders would have to come from the office of Commissioner Allman.

No Arrests

The next day the building was razed. No arrests have been made to date. Mrs. Dobbins purchased the house through Fairfax and

Blakey, 213 W. Oak, on Oct. 9, after seeing the place advertised in the Chicago Defender.

At 255 W. 48th place, the house stands windowless, the doors torn from the hinges, its interior black with smoke and soot. Outside, a policeman stands guard in front of the deserted house.

Ex-Soldier to Move

John Titus, discharged soldier who bought a house at 510 W. Garfield boulevard, recently made a strategic withdrawal from the neighborhood where he and his wife were the victims of a stench bomb attack a few weeks ago.

The decision to move came after repeated pleas from G. F. Matthews, real estate broker of 4501 Wentworth avenue, who has received threatening letters ever since negotiating the sale of the house to Mr. and Mrs. Titus.

The original owners joined the real estate broker in asking Titus to relinquish his new home. It was revealed that merchants in the vicinity of 55th and Halsted street were exerting pressure on Matthews because of his sale to Negroes.

Negro Property Owners Hit Project For Negro Workers

CHICAGO (ANP)—Voicing a protest to the government's proposed 250-home project in their vicinity, seven Negro home owners of the exclusive West Chesterfield community last week filed a petition to vacate an order condemning lots upon which the new homes for war workers will be erected.

Represented by Atty. Aaron followed when Judge Elwyn R. Shaw signed an order on July 20 which permitted the government to condemn lots for the erection of the \$1,500,000 housing project. Judge Michael Igoe set the hearing date on the petition to Sept. 12 before Judge Shaw.

Rated as one of the finest Negro residential communities in America, homes in the West Chesterfield vicinity range from \$6,900 to \$44,000. The district is located between 91st and 95th Sts and Indiana and South Park Aves.

Professionals Live There The majority of the residents of both West Chesterfield and Lilydale,

H. Payne, the home owners action pastor of the Lilydale First Baptist church and president of the West Chesterfield - Lilydale Community council.

Atty. Payne, however, declared that almost the entire community, including doctors, lawyers, dentists, school teachers and civil service employees, oppose the erection of the 250-unit housing project for war workers. Payne's petition pointed out that the government plans to erect "substandard, temporary" homes, which would create a slum district and depreciate values of existing homes.

"This is ridiculous," remarked Jo-

Loeb and Schlessman, architects for the new homes. "We have taken great care to plan permanent, fire-proof, well constructed brick homes adjoining all-Negro residential districts, want the project and have signed a petition asking the government to go ahead with the work," declared the Rev. Emmanuel White.

Greyhound Bus Co.

Promises No Bias

9-16-44
BALTIMORE

The Greyhound Bus Company is pledged to a policy of no discrimination in its service to customers, according to a letter received this week by the NAACP from S. J. Sills, superintendent of the bus terminal at Howard and Centre streets.

Mr. Sill's letter followed a conference with NAACP officials last Wednesday which grew out of the arrest of two Philadelphia beauticians at the bus terminal on September 5, on charges of disorderly conduct following a dispute about boarding a bus.

The beauticians, sisters, were Mrs. Mary E. Turner and Mrs. Myrtle E. Meade, who said that the dispatcher at the terminal refused to allow them to board the 9:05 bus for Philadelphia, although he accepted two white passengers after saying the bus was filled.

After arresting officers testified that one of the women bit his arm, tore his sleeves and created a disturbance by yelling "jim-crow law" and discrimination, Mrs. Turner was fined \$25 and costs and her sister, \$1 and costs.

Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, NAACP president, told the court that often bus and taxi drivers use their own discretion in loading vehicles and discriminate among the passengers.

Tore His Sleeves, Cop Says
Mr. Sill's letter to the NAACP stated that the Greyhound Company practices no "discrimination as to race or color in the selling and loading of passengers" and that no seat reservations are made on any buses from out terminal, although it is sometimes necessary to limit sales of tickets (when bus seats are sold out because of the lack of equipment).

In making the letter public, Mrs. Jackson issued a statement urging other passengers, who encounter discrimination in violation of this policy to report the incident immediately to company officials or to the NAACP rather than argue the point which might lead to their arrest.

Court Upholds

Property Buy

Miller Bates Wins

Right to New Site

COST \$6,000

Falls Road Whites

Would Ban Colored

TOWSON—Ruling that restrictive covenants are enforceable only in real estate developments of a set pattern, Judge J. Howard Murray dismissed proceedings in Circuit Court here Wednesday afternoon which sought to restrain Miller Bates, colored, from buying a \$6,000 site at Falls and Corrento Roads in an erstwhile restricted neighborhood.

Bates, 34, who lives at 6226 Falls Road, is a window washing contractor in Brooklyn, Md.

The particular property, in Baltimore County, six miles from the city limits, and said to include valuable limestone deposits, has been barred to colored for 41 years, the AFRO learned.

The suit was instigated a few weeks ago by Michael B. Scholates, white, an ornamental limestone shop owner in the area, to keep Charles C. McColgan, 88-year-old white real estate agent of 217 N. Calvert Street, from selling a lot to the colored man.

Says Whites Paid Better

In announcing the decision, after a bitter five-hour legal battle, Judge Murray pointed out that he didn't believe the agent had any intention of making the section an all-white community.

What actually happened, the judge related, was that McColgan, who barred colored from ownership of property in the 74-acre tract for 41 years, dealt with whites because they paid better prices.

However, Scholates, determined to carry his fight to the Court of Appeals, was ordered to put up a \$5,000 bond pending disposition of the case.

Deed Showed Covenant

He testified that in 1941 he bought his property down Falls Road from the disputed lot on condition that colored would not be allowed to buy within the

tract.

James Burch, white, who represented him, produced the first deeds of the 14 lots in the 74-acre tract including the disputed property which all contained the restrictive covenant.

Scholates, gaunt-faced, sitting slumped in the witness chair and using the term "d---y," told how he purchased the land and built a shop and a \$12,000 home on the site.

Colored in Neighborhood

When cross examined by R. H. Stevenson, white, who represented the real estate agent, Scholates admitted that colored were living in the neighborhood when he made the purchase, but said they did not own land in the particular plot. The nearest colored home to him is now closer than the disputed one, he said.

"I wouldn't have bought the land to live on had I known colored would be allowed to buy it," he testified, despite the fact that many of the 23 neighboring families have been here for periods ranging up to 100 years.

Warren B. Saymer, white, who operates a sewing machine repair shop, testified that he bought a \$2,200 lot on Falls Road, south of Pimlico Road in 1939, on the assumption that the deed had a restrictive clause.

Spent \$5,000 on Property

Since that time, he said he had spent almost \$5,000 to improve the undeveloped property.

However, in cross-examination, attorney Stevenson produced an agreement, which Saymer confessed signing in 1939, which agreed for only his immediate property to be subject to the restrictive clause.

Mrs. Mary Kelly, white, wife of a dog kennel owner, testified that she rented property from McColgan for \$17.50 a month and frequently, he mentioned the restrictive clauses.

Protector Already Evicted

However, Mr. Stevenson, through cross examination of the witness, revealed that she was three months behind in her rent and was facing eviction when she left the property two weeks ago.

When McColgan, gray-haired and trembling, took the stand, there was a wave of disapproval from the white complainants. No spectators were in the room. The real estate agent folded his arms and told of his large holdings in the area.

He further testified that all of the 14 lots in the tract had restrictive covenants on the first deeds but that he made certain limitations on each sale, so that

the clause implied only to purchased property.

Never Restricted Land

"I have never restricted land

for white only," he testified. "The fact is, when I put out a sign 'Booker T. Washington Homes for Colored' in 1942, the whites tore down the sign."

Mrs. Anne Hill, mother of Mrs. Bates, related that 23 colored families had been living in the vicinity for a long period. She said her aunt, Mrs. Sophia Yates, 98, was the youngest of a family of 17 children who were born at the house she occupies.

Judge Murray recognized the woman. "She's the best cook I have ever known," he said.

Bates Property Owner

In the final argument, the opposition attorney contended that the lot holders bought land on the guarantee that colored would not be able to purchase nearby property. This promise, he stated, had been broken.

Climax of the case came when the white real estate agent revealed that the Bates family had also bought property across the street from the complainant, Scholates, in addition to the disputed lot.

The homes, at present, have no gas or water, but efforts are being made to extend the lines.

IN A NUTSHELL

Miller Bates, 34, a window washing contractor, of Brooklyn, Md., began transactions for purchasing a \$6,000 piece of property at Falls and Corrento Roads, with a large stone house, 6 miles from Baltimore.

White neighbors, including Michael B. Scholates, ornamental limestone shop owner, who has government contracts, protested on the grounds that the area was bound by a 41-year-old restrictive covenant barring colored.

Eighty-eight-year-old Charles C. McColgan, white, Baltimore real estate agent, told Judge J. Howard Murray, in Towson, Md. Equity Court that he had no intention of making the area all white.

Whites Wouldn't Buy

He further said that the 41-year-old ban was due to his belief that whites would pay more for land than colored. After 41 years, he had sold only three lots.

Following a blistering four-hour trial, the jurist dismissed the proceedings on the grounds that restrictive covenants were not enforceable if there were no set plans for development.

Scholates, dumbfounded when told that a colored family had moved right across the road from him in another spot from the one in dispute, asked a white attorney to carry the case to the Court of Appeals.

Maryland

Housing Fight Looms in Michigan

The Peoples Voice N.Y., N.Y.

DETROIT—Henry Ford's empire seems to stand in the way of Negroes having decent housing near the Ford Motor Company, and the National Housing Agency faces a show-down fight. Several weeks ago the agency advised the Ford Motor Company and the city of Dearborn, that it planned to construct 410 "unrestricted" family dwelling units near the Rouge plant in that city. "Unrestricted" means open to the occupancy of the members of any racial group meeting the qualifications.

The Ford company made no public protest, but privately, it is well known that it is against the idea. Dearborn citizens, however, who have restricted their town to white residents, except for some 8' servants, are in open opposition. The City Council passed a resolution declaring that the people of Dearborn "do not want and will not have under any circumstances" a Negro housing project within the city, and stated that the intentions of the FPHA are "arbitrary, unwarranted, unfounded and improper."

On the other hand, Ford Local 600 of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, has gone on record in favor of the project, although not unanimously.

The conflict threatens to bring into bold relief one of the main causes of Detroit's racial tension, which flared into two riots a couple of years ago, one over the Sojourner Truth Housing Project and the other over a combination of evils.

Government Housing Project For Negroes In Dearborn Fought

New York Age N.Y. 11-25-44

DETROIT, Mich.—Plans for the Federal Public Housing Authority to erect a non-restricted housing development adjacent to the Ford Motor Co. River Rouge plant in Dearborn, face a stiff fight, it was disclosed here this week.

By "non-restricted" the FPHA means that Negro families may occupy the new houses in Dearborn. This relief, an acute housing shortage in which some 6,000 Negro families are unable to find decent housing accommodations in the Detroit area.

Although the Ford River Rouge plant now employs about 14,000 Negro workers at the Dearborn plant, there are less than 100 Negroes living in the city, and most of them are domestic workers.

The Dearborn City Council has passed a resolution declaring "the people of Dearborn do not want and will not have under any circumstances" a Negro housing project within its precincts. This opposition is all that is keeping the FPHA from going ahead with its plans to erect the project. This week, the NHA, of which John B. Blandford, Jr., is administrator, is expected to decide on whether the project is to be pressed or abandoned.

'Unrestricted' Dearborn Project Faces Showdown Fight

N.Y., N.Y. Special Correspondence P.M. 11-26-44

DETROIT, Nov. 25. — The Federal Government's National Housing Agency today faced a showdown fight in its efforts to erect a non-restricted housing development adjacent to the Ford Motor Co. River Rouge plant in the city of Dearborn.

"Non-restricted" means that new houses and the Federal Public Housing Administration frankly intends that the new houses shall be available for some of the 6000 Negro families now unable to find decent housing accommodations in the Detroit area.

Dearborn, heart of the Ford empire, and virtually dominated by Ford interests, has never permitted Negroes to own property within its limits. Although the Ford Rouge plant in Dearborn now employs 14,000 Negroes, there are only 87 living in the city, most of them servants. The city's population is 72,985.

The 14,000 Negroes employed at the Ford plant must commute to their jobs from badly overcrowded and, in many cases, long obsolete dwelling places. Dearborn is the only city in the Detroit area which has refused to accept any kind of a public housing project, although its industrial employment has soared to new heights since Pearl Harbor.

'Unrestricted'

A few weeks ago, the FPHA informed both the Ford Motor Co., and Dearborn city officials that it proposed to construct 410 unrestricted family dwelling units of a temporary nature near the Rouge plant.

The company privately expressed opposition to the idea, but publicly took a hands-off policy. Dearborn

Negro families may occupy the city officials are in open opposition. The City Council has passed a resolution declaring "the people of Dearborn do not want and will not have under any circumstances" a Negro housing project within its precincts. The resolution declares the intentions of the FPHA "arbitrary, unwarranted, unfounded and improper."

Ford Local 600, of the United Automobile Workers, CIO, has gone on record in favor of the project, but it has not been able to make the decision unanimous among its membership.

One Cause of Riot

The conflict over the Dearborn housing project brings into clear relief one of the basic causes of Detroit racial tension, which boiled over less than two years ago in the bloody race riots which took almost 40 lives.

A survey by the Detroit Housing Commission, the FPHA and the Citizens Housing and Planning Council reveals that the Negro population in Detroit, comprising nearly 10 per cent of the city's population, lives on only 2 per cent of the residential area, nearly half of it located in less desirable areas, close to railroad tracks or factories, or in old blighted areas deserted decades ago by whites.

Recent surveys of the U. S. Census Bureau show that the Negro

population of Detroit has increased by 47 per cent in recent years. This new Negro population has been forced to settle, as best it could, on the small areas restricted to Negroes. Negro spokesmen, naturally bitter, point out that the new Negro population came as a result of direct and indirect Government recruitment of workers for heavy industry.

The War Housing Center, a home finding and referral agency for the entire Detroit area, says it has almost caught up with the demands for housing for white families. However, there currently are about 6000 applications from Negro families which need homes—and no houses or flats are available for them. Some 2000 houses now are being constructed, but when they are completed, there still will be 4000 Negro families without homes.

No Land for Negroes

It was in the face of these facts that FPHA and the Detroit Victory Council, a semi-official community agency, decided that 410 dwellings should be erected near the Dearborn Rouge plant, where so many of the newly arrived Negroes are employed. The Council recognized that in the Detroit area, outside of the small city of Inkster, there is virtually no land available for Negro housing developments, public or private. Inkster, with a 60 per cent increase in Negro population since the war started, could accommodate more homes for Negroes, but the city has no industries or other sources of taxation with which to defray costs of the necessary municipal services.

The City of Dearborn is the only municipality in the area which successfully maintained an exclusion policy toward Negroes. No other city in the Detroit area has such large tax resources in relation to its population. Nor does any other city in the area have within its bounds a comparable per capita area of vacant land available for residential development.

In finally declaring in favor of a Dearborn site, the FPHA settled on what is admittedly an inferior neighborhood. A number of highly desirable unsettled residential areas were found, but it was felt that selection of one of these as the sites for the new project would cause endless and bitter controversy.

Smoke Disadvantage

The site finally chosen, a few blocks east of the huge Ford plant, is in an area where the buildable

area is underdeveloped and apparently offers little possibility for continued private housing development. Some opponents of the project have pointed out that smoke and fumes from the Ford plant will be harmful to residents in the project, if it is ever erected.

However, by comparison with quarters many Negroes in the Detroit area now occupy, a well-planned and equipped project on the proposed Dearborn site will be a great improvement. The FPHA is insisting on the proposed site, but would gladly take some more desirable area if the Dearborn City Council will assign such an area.

The NHA of which John B. Blandford, Jr., is Administrator, is expected to decide within a few days on whether the Dearborn project is to be pressed or abandoned.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Horace A. White, Negro member of the Detroit Housing Commission, has called on Blandford to ignore the position of the Dearborn City Council and to "vindicate the Negro's right to live in his country, as well as to die for it."

Try To Halt Occupancy Of Residences

Isolated cases of disgruntled and prejudiced white residents attempting to block colored citizens from moving into much needed homes West of Taylor avenue continue to threaten the welfare of all Negro St. Louisans. One resident who is fighting to live in a home which she has already purchased has been cited for contempt of court for moving in. Another case attempting to force a Negro family to move was continued with a first step victory for three white residents who originally filed suit against them. Both cases are in Circuit Judge James E. McLaughlin's court.

The important cases to Negro citizens are those of Miss Otea Gaikins, 3851 Windsor Pl., who was to face the contempt hearing Thursday, and Dr. and Mrs. Richard Layne, who were left to face possibility of being forced to move from their new home in Lewis Pl. when suit against them was continued to Sept. 14 next Thursday. Should they lose the case all Negro home owners in Lewis Pl. would be affected.

Stench Bomb

In the case of Miss Otea Gaikins, a suit was filed for a temporary injunction to keep her from moving in her home at 1715-17 Marcus avenue by Theodore Evers who contends the sale of the home violates property restrictions. No papers were ever served on her. Miss Gaikins stated, and her brother, Roscoe Gaikins moved in the downstairs to protect their rights. Nevertheless she was charged with contempt of court.

Last Saturday a stench bomb was hurled into a front window at the Marcus avenue home, after which the vandals fled. No arrests were made. A white family that has been unable to move due to illness of a member still occupies the second floor of the house.

The street adjacent to Miss Gaikins' property, 4600 Cote Brillante avenue, is almost completely occupied by Negro home owners, while at least twelve families have bought in Lewis Pl. Atty. Silas E. Garner is representing the defendants in the legal cases.

Que To Bar
43-51, Louis, mo.

Family From Marcus Ave.

Miss Otea Gaikins, 3851 Windsor place, is the defendant in the latest injunction suit filed to restrict citizens from moving in property west of Taylor avenue on the ground of restrictive covenants against Negroes. A suit against Dr. and Mrs. R. Layne of Lewis place is set for its first hearing next Thursday in Circuit Judge McLaughlin's Court.

A temporary injunction is sought to prevent Miss Gaikins from moving in a single flat at 1715-17 Marcus avenue (4700 West). It was filed by Theodore Evers, living in the 4700 block on Cote Brillante. The suit also named Mr. and Mrs. G. Lane (white), who it is contended sold the property despite restriction provisions.

A temporary bond was granted in the latter case by Judge McLaughlin, which means that Miss Gaikins will be summoned to show cause why a temporary injunction should not be issued.

The street running into Miss Gaikins property, 4600 Cote Brillante avenue, is almost completely occupied by Negro home owners, while at least twelve families have bought in Lewis place.

LEWIS PL. DEMURRER GRANTED

St. Louis, Missouri
Defective Petition

Turns Back Action

A neighborhood covenant suit for the eviction of Dr. and Mr. Richard Layne from their home at No. 2 Lewis place filed four months ago by several white neighbors, Judge W. H. Killore, sustained a demurrer filed by Atty. S. E. Garner, attorney for the Laynes.

The court's action means that the plaintiff's petition was defective and did not state a cause of action against the defendants. As a result the plaintiffs will have to renew the legal procedure before the court will hear the case on its merits, which will be an expensive and dubious action.

Many defects were detected in the petition. Also weakening the case is the fact that at least twenty Negroes already own property on Lewis Place which runs from 4500 to 4700. About five of these families already reside in the area. It was also reported that a survey showed that many of the white residents disclaimed backing of an alleged covenant restricting sale or renting of the property to Negro citizens. Many are now anxious to sell since the property is bringing peak prices at the present time.

An amended petition has been filed and a careful study of it is being made to determine if it states a cause of action. Atty. Garner plans to file another demurrer.

Refuse To Give Up Home

Another suit of C. R. Robbins to oust Sylvia and George Boonshaft from property at 4616 Lewis place, has been moved to Justice of the Peace James H. Deese court due to the illness of Justice James Burke. A special deputy was employed to serve notice on Mrs. Boonshaft, but it is understood that she has evaded him so that service is being made through publication. Robbins purchased the property and the Boonshafts moved in claiming the previous owner had made an oral agreement to lease the place to them. He is represented by Atty. Joseph L. McLemore.

64-1944

Segregation at Minnesota II
Due to Negro Students
Themselves Says Co-ed Mo.
2-25-44

ST. PAUL, Minn. — (ANP)—
Jim crowism on the campus of
the University of Minnesota
was blamed on Negro students
themselves, by Miss Natalie
Moorman, Washington, D. C., in
an address at the regular month-
ly meeting of the St. Paul
branch of the N.A.A.C.P. The
meeting was held Tuesday at
the Hallie Q. Brown Communi-
ty house.

Miss Moorman, a student in
the school of nursing at the uni-
versity, declared that Negro
students fail to get their full
and equal rights on the campus
because they do not demand
them. She charged that Negro
students segregate themselves
in the cafeteria and other plac-
es on the campus.

An incident
of attempted discrimination

was at first
an appointment at a
campus beauty parlor because
of her race and color. She lat-
er took the matter up with the
dean of women at the universi-
ty and reminded her of the
state's recent civil liberties law.

The conference, Miss Moor-
man stated, resulted in her get-
ting the very best of coopera-
tion in campus beauty parlors
everafter. She is the first Ne-
gro co-ed to live in the coopera-
tive dormitory on the campus.

**Planning To Bar
Dentist, Wife
From New Home**

The newcomers are Dr. and Mrs. Vernon F. Brunce, of Baltimore, Md. Mrs. Brunce, head of the home economics department in the Frederick Douglass High School, Baltimore, purchased the colonial-type brick-chapboard residence at 4 Mosswood avenue months ago, paying \$11,800 cash for it. Neighbors "thought" Mrs. Brunce was white.

The retired judge, Harry V. Osborne, denied that racial prejudice or discrimination entered into the picture. He and his

Seek to Halt Building of 9 Housing Units

By MELVIN B. JOHNSON

The whites appeared at the council meeting to register vigorous objections to the proposed construction of nine dwellings for colored families by the Maple Homes, Inc., along the north side of Eighth Ave., between Spruce and Walnut streets.

Instead of erecting new homes for Negroes, the white leaders of the group stated, improvement should be made in the houses they now occupy in their neighborhood, with parks being provided for the benefit of colored residents.

Want 'Ghetto'

Directing their remarks to Mayor George H. Burt as head of the Borough Council, the whites also urged the officials to guard against any plan seeking to provide decent housing for Negroes outside of their present settlement, else a wholesale exodus of white residents from the borough can be expected.

They also appealed for immediate restrictions in the issue of building permits and some asked a curbing of the present Maple Homes project on Eighth Ave., and condemnation of the land for the purpose of serving as a zone, theoretically separating white residents from Negroes.

Mayor Burt, Borough Attorney Guy W. Gordon, Borough Engineer Morton A. Leber and council members answered many questions directed to them by the protesting whites, and it was the consensus of their opinions that they were powerless to issue discriminating restrictions as demanded without violating the Civil Rights Act of New Jersey.

Cognizant of the importance of the issue raised by the whites, the council adjourned the public meeting to discuss the demands in a private caucus, after assuring the protestants that it would be studied with a view of "doing the best possible for the borough."

Project to Continue
Foundations have been started for the proposed development for colored families, and, unofficially, it

was indicated that city officials were now powerless to halt the project without facing suits by the directors of Maple Homes, Inc.

Whites, as well as others in the community, agree that colored families are badly in need of adequate housing, since most of the dwellings they now occupy are outmoded and overcrowded. The land selected for the nine new dwellings borders on what is referred to, as the colored settlement.

Roselle is one of the small communities of Union county where colored families have resided for many years, but since the war the populations of both races have considerably increased because of the proximity of the borough to the many industrial plants found in the county.

From the Readers
Am - New York, N.Y.
Two Kinds

Dear Editor: 10-29-44
Within the last two days the news has featured two different kinds of Americans. In the news reels I saw the 92d Infantry Division, fighting the Nazis in Italy. I saw Gen. Clark shake the hands of many of these Negro American wounded in action.

In the papers the other day
saw where a committee of white
American citizens had been formed
in Orange, N. L. to prevent a
wealthy Negro dentist from occu-
pying the home which he had pur-
chased.

The first group of Americans are battling Tiger tanks to tear down the ghetto walls in Europe so aptly described by Mary Berg, while the second group sits safely at home and devotes its full energy to building these same walls higher here in the land of the free. By now, every Jap-controlled newspaper in the Philippines is featuring their act as another reason why the natives should kill Americans.

Newark WILLIAM P. BURNELL.

Orange Residents Meet in 'Emergency'

To Bar Negro Dentist From New Home

Pm — New York, N. Y.

10-24-84
45 Get Together to
**Consider Steps to Nullify
Sale of Home**

PH
Exclusive

Forty-five white home owners of the prosperous community of Orange, N. J., met yesterday to consider steps to nullify the sale of one of their "better homes" to a Negro dentist and his school-teacher wife.

Dr. Vernon F. Brumce, 45, who

and could not be reached, but her husband denounced as untrue one version of how the deal was concluded, which Villanueva admitted she heard at the meeting, that Mrs. Bruce, in looking over properties, told McPike her husband was a Baltimore physician who planned to practice in New York.

"Everything was open and above board," Bunce said. "They may try to prove fraud, but they can't. I had nothing to do with the matter, but my wife bought the house and that's all there is to it."

to sensationalize the facts."

Denies Prejudice

The meeting, Villanueva said, "was to verify rumors that the house had been purchased by a colored family." In reply to a question about the "feeling" of the meeting, he said: "What feeling would you expect?"

It was "very well controlled," he added. He denied that racial prejudice or discrimination entered into the picture.

Students Meet in
Pm — New York
to Dentist Fro
has practiced here since 1929, and is the husband of Mrs. Emma Brunce, head of the home economics department in the Frederick Douglass High School, Baltimore, under whose name the \$11,300 cash sale was made, today said he and his wife would occupy the colonia

type brick-clapboard residence
4 Mosswood Ave. before Thank
giving Day. 62-244

But their neighbors, prominent whites who first thought Mr. Bruce was white, spent an hour and a half at the protest meeting and designated a committee "to protect their equity," according

"I've faced very little of segregation," he said, "less through the better class of white people, and I'm a little surprised at it all. I have a nephew, a second lieutenant, now in Indiana, about to go out into the Pacific as a bombardier. That boy will be giving his all for what we're fighting against."

"With all due respect to the colored race," he said, "there is a place for betterment of every member, but the question of individual liberties is limited to the point where it causes injury to any neighbor. The neighborhood is fighting to protect its equity, and citizens have a right to feel alarmed if their property values stand in jeopardy of being decreased up to 50 per cent."

10-24-44
Harry I. Stevens, Newark real-

Emergency Meeting

Brunce's Feelings

"I feel there's no compromise with segregation," Bruner says. "We just want to be considered citizens of a nation under whose flag I am born, regardless of creed or color. A better relationship between white and

the purchase, namely, the story about practicing in New York, branded false.

One Version

"We're really bringing Hitlerism
use to home if somebody tells me
it because of the color of my skin
I can't have a decent place to live
I feel there is no compromise."
It was learned that there were
possible courses of action for
home owners:
That some step in the proceed-
ings was technically incorrect, for
example: if the number of stamps
attached to the deed were insuffi-
cient.
That fraud was employed in

estate firm confirmed the closing of the deal on about Sept. 1, but Stevens said he was "not too conversant with any of the details" and would "rather keep myself aloof than from this distressing situation." His agent, Frederick McPike, received in the deposit on the property from Mrs. Bunce and forwarded her offer to the American Insurance Co. of Newark. Title was obtained from the Essex Title Co., Montclair, and McPike could not be reached for examination comment.

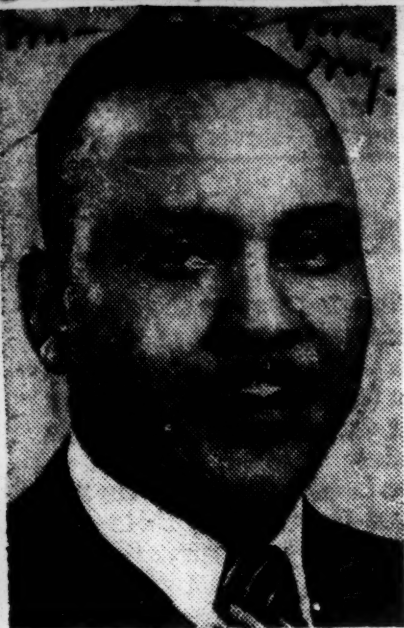
Marcel
 chairman
 gard, who
 he group
 and Mrs.
 Mosswood
 Brunce

people will bring about a better
 place to live in for all persons con-
 cerned."

10-24-44
 Harry V. Osborne, retired Judge
 of the Court of Common Pleas,
 1912-1922, a member of the New
 Jersey State Senate, 1909-1911, and
 Public Utility Commissioner, 1922-
 1928, heads a committee of five
 lawyers and one architect. Other
 members are Irving Smith, 260
 Warwick Ave.; David B. Silver,

200 Sterling Dr.; Leland Taliaferro,
 660 Mossman Ave.; Joseph G.
 Lyons, 239 Sterling Ave.; and Vil-
 lanueva.

Osborne admitted the committee
 was formed to see what "legal
 steps" could be taken to kill the
 sale. Yesterday's discussion, he said,
 other concerned property owners here,
 and he declined to elaborate on
 the grounds that "newspapers tend



10-25-44
Dr. Bunce



10-25-44
Mrs. Bunce

Bunces Told to Stand Pat

Disclosure in PM yesterday that in Orange, N. J., white neighbors planned legal steps to prevent Dr. Vernon F. Bunce, Negro dentist, and his school-teacher wife, Emma, from occupying a house Mrs. Bunce purchased for \$11,300 cash, brought the Bunces more than 100 telephone calls from well-wishers today. 10-25-44

There were 105 calls—he counted

New Jersey Town Stops Exclusion

LIVINGSTON, N. J.—For years this township, through its township committee and planning board, required builders to sign an agreement to exclude Negroes from new developments.

Recently this matter came to the attention of the N.A.A.C.P. and the association's legal department directed a letter of protest to the Livingston authorities, pointing out that since the decision of the U. S. supreme court in Buchanan vs. Warley in 1926, such action by an official body is unconstitutional.

The planning board of Livingston has written to the association admitting its violations of the law in the past but stating that in the future, agreements between the authorities and a builder "will not contain the clause objected to by your organization."

them—many from white people, he said.

"Stand pat, we'll help you," they told Bunce.

The six-man committee formed to investigate the purchase was silent yesterday. But at the real estate division of the American Insurance Co., Newark, which sold the property at 4 Mosswood Ave., doubt was expressed that anything could be done to eject the Bunces.

Dr. V. F. Bunce

Was Opposed

In Orange Buy

Their New Neighbors Thought Her White

ORANGE, N. J.—A small group of white residents who sought to arouse their neighbors and other whites in nearby cities by protesting against the purchase of a home by a prominent Negro dentist, are considering dropping the issue after receiving several setbacks.

This is what appeared Monday to be the likely outcome of the indignation of the whites when they learned that an attractive Colonial style dwelling at 760 Mosswood Ave. had been purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Vernon F. Bunce. The white residents are said to have believed that Mrs. Bunce, head of the home economics dept. at Douglas School, Baltimore, was white when she arraigned for purchase of the house after an inspection.

But the race issue flared up in the sale when Dr. Bunce visited the house recently to observe the pro-

gress of work being done by contractors. When the report circulated in the neighborhood that the Bunces were colored, a group of whites held a meeting last Sunday evening at the home of Mrs. Fred Drake, who lives next door to the dwelling purchased by the colored couple for a reported \$13,000 in cash.

A "fact finding" committee was formed by the indignant whites to investigate the realty deal and see if Mrs. Bunce did not deceive the firm handling the transaction. Former Judge Harry V. Osborne was named chairman of the committee, with the other members being Marcel Villanueva, chairman of the Orange Planning Board; Leland Taliaferro, David E. Silver and Irving Smith Jr., all of whom live in vicinity of the Mosswood Avenue house.

Instead of receiving the full support of other white residents of this city and adjacent communities for their action against the highly-cultured colored couple, the "fact finding" committee, it was reported, found that many residents resented their injection of the race issue in the community and urged that contemplated action be dropped.

District Court Judge Lyons of Orange, who was said to be a member of the committee, issued a denial last week that "I have nothing to do with this affair." The jurist, who is also Orange Democratic chairman, stated that he did not attend the meeting as Mrs. Drake's home.

Further rebuff to the committee was received when Harry J. Stevens Realty Co. of Newark, which handled the transaction for the American Insurance Co., announced that "nothing had developed to affect the transaction in any way."

While the whites continue to seek a way to upset the deal, Dr. Bunce revealed Friday that he and his wife are planning to occupy the house after the decorating work is completed. He added:

"The only thing the neighbors will be able to find wrong will be the color of my skin, which God saw fit to give me. I will occupy the house—so help me—as soon as the work is finished.

64-1944

New York

CAPTAIN MULZAC BUYS A HOME

Captain Hugh Mulzac, back from Europe, to which he has delivered ten cargoes of war materials in seventeen months, couldn't buy a house in one Brooklyn area because he is colored. *Afro American - Baltimore, Md.*

But Captain Mulzac was able to find a suitable house in another section and the white owner was glad to sell it to him.

The important thing isn't that New York has race prejudice, but that in New York you can always find some one who hasn't. *4-1-44*

There are decent, upright, self-respecting friends of colored people in other cities, but often they haven't the courage to live up to their consciences.

Take Baltimore or Richmond or Washington, where race hate confines colored people to certain areas bounded by Poles, Irish, Catholics, Jews and Italians.

Individual Poles, Catholics, Jews or Irish declare to colored people their friendship, but they do not let that friendliness go far enough to help colored people buy homes in "restricted" areas.

City, State and county commissions and agencies investigate and deplore the high death and crime rate, but they never do anything about it because real estate dealers promise to blacklist any realtor who sells a home in a white block to a colored person.

The job of colored people is to find individual Poles, Jews and Catholics who own homes and will sell them.

When it is possible in the South, as in New York, to buy a home when you have the money, one part of the race problem is solved. *4-1-44*

What Mulzac Incident Proves

The Mulzac incident proves that no matter how bravely we fight to win this war we shall come home to the same old pre-war prejudices. The war must last a long time before we can abolish race discrimination, and then it must be done by law.

only form of sympathy or consolation offered to him was when, subsequently, a man visited him and attempted to apologize for the affront. The desired house still was not for sale to Negroes.

Over the telephone, Mrs. Birdie Surut, who admits she is Jewish, and one of the owners, told The Courier she had been approached by a colored prospect for the purchase of her home. Mrs. Surut said had she known in advance the racial identity of Captain Mulzac, she might have been better prepared to make a decision. She also admitted there was a tacit agreement among herself and her neighbors never to sell to Negroes, because, in view of the fact there were many white doctors in the neighborhood, the area might quickly depreciate and realty values decrease.

She stated that, even if they decided to dispose of their home to colored people, she and her brother, who would have to reside there for at least another month while making other living arrangements, might be intimidated or even molested by their white fellow-owners following such action. Mrs. Surut declared that even though frequently not recognized as an obvious Jewess, she, herself, held no animosities against colored people, realizing the many injustices heaped upon her own race and other minority groups.

CAPTAINS MIXED CREW

Captain Mulzac, first colored skipper placed in charge of a Liberty ship, has been in command of the S.S. Booker T. Washington ever since his induction about 18 months ago, always with a mixed crew.

His return last week to New York after completing seven safe voyages to North Africa, interspersed with frequent shuttling activities between Africa and Italy, definitely dispels all recent rumors to the effect that he and his vessel had been reported missing or torpedoed.

About Jamaica's Big Problem

The ruthless stoning of a "Brick Town" house which was purchased by a Negro, has put the match to the torch in that neck of the woods. There had been other outbursts of "jim crowism" and racial bias, but this topped them all.

Here was a neighborhood which in no way could be classified as a "swanky" white section, yet the clannish attitude of those white persons residing there, immediately painted a discriminatory picture. They vehemently demonstrated that they did not want any Negroes buying property in that particular block.

All of Jamaica's Negro population should protest this sort of activity. Civic organizations should band together and fight all forms of racial bias to the very end. They should not sit idly by and hope for the best when there is PLENTY that they can do.

Jamaica's Central Civic Association has started the ball a-rolling. The Jamaica NAACP should jump in and join the fight. Other civic-minded organizations in the section must also lock arms with the fighting machine. If a solid front is portrayed in Jamaica, you can bet your bottom dollar that whites will think twice before they stone another home which has been purchased by Negroes.

Battles Arise As Harlem Expands North And West

NEW YORK—Harlem is

spilling over its borders, mov-

ing north, and west toward

the river. Legal and physical

battles have taken place this

year as Negroes sought to move into

white neighborhoods because there

were no vacancies to be found in

Harlem.

Those who have attempted to

move from the crush of the city to

the tree lined streets of suburban

Long Island have had their windows

broken and in one instance a house of

was set afire in an effort to keep

the neighborhood lily-white.

The vacancy ratio in Harlem now

is one per cent for every thousand

units, according to Donelan J.

Phillips, president of the Consoli-

dated Tenants' League and housing

expert. "The tenants are squeezed

in and there is no room for expan-

sion due to the artificial racial bar-

rier," Mr. Phillips said.

"During this crisis when we are

thinking of world democracy, racial

discrimination in New York City is

keeping the Negro penned in so that

he can't move north or west," Mr.

Phillips declared. "There are va-

cancies on Riverside drive and up

in Washington Heights. Should

there be racial discrimination in

housing at this time? What are we

fighting for? Our people have to

live in squalor, filth and dirt!

"It's true that people are moving

into so-called white areas, but very

slowly. Some have gotten in on the

east side of Broadway between

142nd and 152nd streets and from

158th street up.

"The banks promote racial dis-

crimination. They own 95 per cent

of the property in Harlem. Banks

like the Central Hanover Bank and

Trust company and insurance com-

panies like the Metropolitan Life

Insurance company. The so-called

landlord is just an agent.

"They are taking advantage now

of the manpower shortage and using

that as an excuse not to make neces-

sary repairs. Most of the complaints

that come into our office are about

changed rent schedules, refusal to

make repairs and payments for

services not rendered.

"The real trouble with housing

is not only in New York but all over

the country is that the government

has failed to regulate it. Until the

government does a certain segment

of the population will be used as

guinea pigs. As it stands now an

agency can interfere with housing

because it is privately owned and

controlled. But housing should be

treated like public utilities. The

government has laid down certain

laws regarding them.

High rents, outdoor toilets and

one of them for four or more fam-

ilies, cellar apartments have so en-

ragged Harlem dwellers that when

the Consolidated Tenants' League

was organized ten years ago people

flocked to it and it has now a mem-

bership of over 10,000.

Its motto has been "Moderate

Rents and Better Housing." Its

legal committee has handled more

than 2500 dispossession cases in one

year. One of its purposes has been

to propose better housing legisla-

tion. Some 13 housing bills were

backed by the League in the New

York State Legislature in 1936.

Mixed Couple Forced Out of N.Y. Apartment by OPA

WASHINGTON (NNPA) —

Overruling its area and regional offices in New York, the national office of the Office of Price Administration this week issued a certificate authorizing the eviction of a mixed couple from a "white" apartment on the edge of Harlem.

The couple, Larry Williams, white, and his colored wife, who live at 58 W. 106th Street, New York City, have been ordered to move by June 1. They are classified as "undesirable" tenants by the OPA ruling.

Say Action Is Legal

For two days prior to issuing the ruling, Administrator Chestor Bowles and Robert R. R. Brooks, an assistant, are said to have conferred with attorneys who maintained the action as taken was necessary under the law, despite legal precedent to the contrary in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams and their 10-year-old son, have been living in the apartment for almost a year. Previous efforts to evict them have been rebuffed by the area and regional offices of the OPA which refused to issue cer-

tificates.

The case was then carried to

the national OPA office by the

building rental agents.

Fear Congress—Report

It is reliably reported that the case was not considered wholly on its merits because OPA officials feared they would incur Congressional disfavor by a ruling which could be interpreted as

sanctioning intermarriage.

There are strong indications

that the case will be taken up by

several liberal organizations and

perhaps fought in the courts.

City Council Outlaws Jim Crow In Tax Exempt Housing Projects

capital. It is recalled that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's housing project in the Stuyvesant section excludes Negroes as possi-

ble tenants.—M.

Democracy in New York moved

ahead Monday, when by a vote of

thirteen, with none against, and

two members not voting, the New

York City Council enacted a meas-

ure to ban discrimination on the

grounds of race, creed or color in

private housing projects which en-

joy tax exemption and other mu-

nicipal privileges.

The bill, which was hotly debated

for three hours, provides:

"No exemption from taxation, for

any project, other than a project

agreed upon or contracted for, shall

be granted to a housing company, or

redevelopment company or rede-

velopment corporation, which shall

directly or indirectly, refuse, with-

hold from, or deny to any person

age of the bill on the floor, but re-

any of the dwelling or business

accommodations in such a project

or property, or the occupancy of

or race, color, creed, or religion, being put up by private

the fight to enact the anti-bias

bill was led by Councilman Ben

Davis, Jr., and Stanley M. Isaacs,

and President of the Council New-

bold Morris. Mrs. Genevieve B.

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A Negro Family Moves In — And Home Catches Fire

PM - New York, N.Y.
2-29-44
**Mother Discovers
Blaze After Agent Gets
Threatening Calls**

Herman Holiday, his wife, Augusta, and their 10-day-old daughter, Lillian, Friday afternoon moved into an apartment at 27-44 Erickson St., East Elmhurst, Queens.

After tidying up the two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen and bath, Holiday left for his night-shift job as a mechanic at the General Post Office.

While the Holidays were getting settled in their new home, Walter Reifer, the real estate agent who rented them the apartment, was receiving threatening phone calls.

Negroes

The Holidays are Negroes. Reifer is a Negro. And the phone conversations he received—there were eight calls made during the afternoon, from men and women, anonymous, of course—usually ended like this:

"We don't want any damn niggers moving in there."

At 3 the next morning, the Holiday baby awakened and cried for her bottle. Mrs. Holiday walked into the kitchen and found it smothered with smoke.

She ran back to the bedroom, hastily wrapped the baby in its blanket, pulled a coat over her for a checkup. The baby was taken to Queens General Hospital.

The milkman went to Engine Co. 316, six blocks away. He told them he believed there was a fire at the Holidays. A fireman was detailed to look over the situation. He found there was, indeed, a fire, and turned in an alarm. Then the apparatus arrived.

Cop Suggests Shelter

A crowd gathered, watching the firemen put out the flames. Mrs. Holiday stood there, baby in arms, until a policeman loudly mentioned that "somebody ought to take the girl in—she has a baby."

One neighbor said, surprisingly: "I thought the bundle in her arms was clothes."

Then the neighbors at 27-50

Erickson, Mr. and Mrs. John Landshut, took Mrs. Holiday into their home. They fed the baby and furnished sleeping accommodations for the two. 2-29-44

Next morning, the Holidays went to what was intended to be their home. The fire had burned through the kitchen floor, dropping to the first floor below. This apartment is being readied for the tenancy of another Negro couple.

The flames crumpled several windows in the house. One window in the kitchen appeared as if it had been broken by something thrown through it. There were reports that a fire bomb had been thrown into the kitchen. The Fire Dept. said it didn't believe this story.

But, knowing there was "racial feeling" in the block, Chief Fire Marshal Thomas P. Brophy ordered an investigation. Police also are investigating.

"There's nothing suspicious about the origin of the fire," police said.

Mrs. Holiday is a graduate of Mrs. Spellman College in Atlanta, where she majored in accounting. Her husband was discharged from the Army two months ago, after two and a half years' service, because of eye strain.

Mrs. Holiday didn't know whether they would move back or not. She said she wasn't afraid for herself, but that "after all, I have a little baby now." The baby was taken to Queens General Hospital for a checkup.

"This was our first attempt at housekeeping," Mrs. Holiday said. "Our new furniture was just in. It must be ruined now."

After the fire was put out only two blankets and some diapers were left. 2-29-44

Son in the Solomons

Reifer, a tall and distinguished looking man, said today that an East Elmhurst white committee had tried to buy the house when they heard it was going to be sold to Negro people. He added:

"This same thing has been done before. I've got one son in the Solomons, one in Arizona. I'd rather they died here at home, fighting fascism, than overseas some place."

The Holidays' immediate next-door neighbor is Miss Elizabeth Duane, an elderly woman, who puts the blame for all the trouble on a

story-book feud she had with the house's original owner, a man, she says, who never had liked her.

"When he left, he did the final spite thing," she said. "He provided for the selling of his house to colored people."

Miss Duane thought, then said: "I heard a colored man say Saturday that there'd be war on Erickson St. We're peace-loving here. We want no war on Erickson St."

Mrs. George Wallace, who lives at 27-36 Erickson, said she thought the fire was started by someone. She said the blaze looked suspicious, very suspicious. Mrs. Wallace, an elderly, retired teacher, then made her stand on Negroes quite clear: 2-29-44

"Well, would you like them as your neighbors?"

Davis-Isaacs Fight on Bias Spurs Council to Action

By Harry Raymond

The hard-fought legislative campaign of Councilmen Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. and Stanley M. Isaacs to end the jimcrow practice against Negro tenants in private housing projects partially subsidized by the City began to bear fruit last week.

Both majority and minority members of the Council's powerful finance committee finally reached agreement on a local law denying tax exemption to all future housing developments which bar tenants because of race, creed or color.

Under the bill, which is an amended version of the original Isaacs-Davis bill, punishment of an owner declared guilty of racial bias by the State Supreme Court would be properly severe. Withholding the legal tax exemption granted to semi-public projects, which would be the penalty under the law would in some cases be equivalent to a fine of tens of thousands of dollars.

And as matters stand the law appears to have a good chance of adoption during the Council's next session Tuesday. Once adopted it would establish important legal principle and precedent in the fight against jimcrow and fascist-like racial discrimination in general.

FIGHT NOT OVER

The fight for the housing measure started after Frederick Ecker,

chairman of the Board of Metropolitan Insurance Co., declared Negroes would not be accepted as tenants in the company's giant Stuyvesant Town to be constructed on the East Side after the war. The Isaacs-Davis Bill, while applying to all semi-public projects, aimed specifically at Stuyvesant Town. 5-7-44

But Metropolitan has already signed its contract with the city and members of the Council majority, writing their own bill, excluded Stuyvesant Town from its jurisdiction because, they said, a law with retroactive features such as the Isaacs-Davis measure would be declared unconstitutional by the courts. It is the opinion in other quarters, however, that the Isaacs-Davis Bill is in keeping with the State Constitution. Those supporting this view suggest the Council adopt both bills and await the court's decision. Councilman Davis put it this way:

"The finance committee bill carries into legislative form the anti-race bias principle. It would establish a legislative fire under the practice of discrimination. But we have an interest in seeing how Stuyvesant Town can be attacked. Passage of the committee measure would establish a principle. But we have to find ways and means to see that Negroes, Jews, Catholics or anybody else can live in those houses."

Most expert opinion supports both the Isaacs-Davis Bill and the Charles Abrams, counsel for the Citizens Housing Council, in supporting all three of the bills, said it was not the duty of the Council to try to interpret the difficult points of law and suggested adoption of a law retroactively affecting Stuyvesant Town.

Cohen-Hart Bill

"If the precedent is permitted to stand, new devices will have been set up legally and constitutionally blessed to suppress minorities. A new inroad will have been permitted into a fascist state via contract. Public responsibility must go with public power; if they are separated, freedom will disappear; the private company cannot be permitted to become a medium for evading public responsibility."

The petition will call on the City Council to pass the Cohen-Hart bill, which defines a penalty against any company discriminating in subsidized projects. Companies found guilty will be fined \$1000, and agents found guilty will be fined \$100, or 10 days in jail, or both. 5-12-44

annual citywide Harlem Week, beginning May 29, the full pressure of the Committee will be brought to bear on the Jim Crow Stuyvesant Town housing project. Algonon Black, of the Ethical Culture Society, who is co-chairman of the Committee, said last night that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., promoters of the

Harlem Week to Center
On Jim Crow Housing
Town Project
Committee Will Bring
Pressure on Stuyvesant Committee on Harlem sponsors its

Stuyvesant Town project, the \$40,000,000 development to cover 18 blocks of the East Side.

The petition will say: "We, the undersigned, petition the City Council to pass the Cohen-Hart bill and the Mayor to sign against tenants on grounds of the Finance Committee Bill, which would bar discrimination in tax-exempt housing projects. We also petition the president and directors of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and of Stuyvesant Town, Inc., to veto any policy which would bar families from tenancy in Stuyvesant Town solely because of their race, color or religion.

Third Harlem Week

The Finance Committee bill was passed by the Council Monday. The law denies tax exemption to any future public housing project financed by private interests which discriminate on grounds of color. It still needs the Mayor's signature.

The Committee's statement laid down a gantlet to Metropolitan Life, saying:

"It is essential also that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. alter its opposition to Negro tenancy. This does not mean that it should not have the right to choose whatever tenancy it may desire; it does mean that it should not discriminate against them solely because of race, color or religion."

This will be the third Citywide Harlem Week sponsored by the Citizens Committee, which was organized two weeks before Pearl Harbor.

The principal objectives of Harlem Week are:

¶ To discuss and prepare specific actions which will advance the highest interests of Negro and white society in the metropolitan area. 5-17-44

¶ To focus public opinion on Negro-white relations.

¶ To go to work on the policy-making bodies of the community with pressure and proposals which will advance the integration of Negroes into the general community life.

During the week of May 29 the Negro's problems of housing, jobs, child-care, and discrimination in general will get an airing over the radio, at large public meetings, in the press and in the councils of all types of civic groups.

Freedom House will have a special broadcast on May 31.

RACIAL BILL IS OPPOSED
Citizens Union Against Plan to End Tax Exemption on Buildings
0-28-44

The Citizens Union, through George H. Hallett Jr., secretary,

sent letters yesterday to the Board of Estimate recommending disapproval of the bill passed by the City Council to remove tax exemption from any city-aided housing corporation that discriminates against tenants on grounds of race, creed or color. Mr. Hallett wrote that the union strongly favored action to prohibit and penalize such discrimination but regarded the penalty of removal of tax exemption so drastic as to make enforcement unlikely, on the one hand, and to discourage investment in housing projects, on the other.

Race Eviction Case Brought to OPA Chief

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.
6-2-44

Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP-NY), president of the International Labor Defense, yesterday kept his promise to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Williams, 58 W. 106 St., to investigate

the OPA's certificate to evict them because Mrs. Williams is a Negro.

The Daily Worker on May 13 carried Mr. Williams' story of being threatened with eviction by the Zephyr Holding Co.

Marcantonio said in his letter to Chester Bowles, OPA head:

"In the Emergency Price Control Act, from which stems your authority, you are expressly in-

structed to regulate and prohibit such manipulative practices or renting and leasing practices which are equivalent to or likely to result in rent increases. I submit that the eviction of Negro Americans for the sole reason of their race or color is precisely within the meaning of these instructions."

Marcantonio pointed out to the OPA director that the neighborhood in which the Williamses reside is one where the "democratic pattern of Negro and white Americans living together in harmony has long been normal."

Marcantonio to Probe OPA Ruling on Race Eviction

The Worker - New York, N.Y.
5-19-44

Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N.Y.), representative in congress from the 20th district and president of the International Labor Defense, will personally investigate the action of the Office of Price Administration in sanctioning the eviction of a family here because

La Guardia Signs Racial Bias Bill

World-Telegram
New York, N.Y.
7-6-44

Mayor La Guardia yesterday signed the local law which would penalize the practice of racial discrimination by private sponsors of tax exempt housing projects. The law would end the tax exemption while any alleged discrimination existed.

Unaffected by the law is the proposed \$50,000,000 Stuyvesant Town development of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. for the East Side. This project was approved before the law was passed.



MARCANTONIO

immensely interested in the case of the young white man, his Negro wife and their 10-year-old son, who having won support of both the local and the regional OPA offices in their fight against the Zephyr Holding Co., apparently do not have the support of certain persons in the national OPA office.

LOCAL RULING

Louis H. Pink, regional OPA rent director, acting on advice of the local OPA chief attorney, last November denied the landlord's petition to evict the family, declaring:

"We have no evidence to support the contention that Mr. and Mrs. Larry Williams (58 W. 106th St.) are undesirable." 5-19-44

The Zephyr Holding Co., the landlord, had pronounced the couple and young Richard "undesirable" upon learning that Mr. Williams' wife was not white.

Turned down by both the local and the regional OPA offices, the landlord appealed to Washington.

Ira Shiller, branch attorney handling the case in the New York OPA office, was disturbed yesterday when told that Mr. and Mrs. Williams felt a government agency sided with a landlord to break up a happy family.

Mr. Shiller admitted somebody in the Washington office had issued the Certificate Relating to Eviction, which permits the landlord to kick out the Williamses by June 1. He



LARRY WILLIAMS

denied, however, that any person connected with the government could or would do more than tell the landlord that his petition to oust the family did not violate an OPA ruling.

Mr. Williams, born in Pittsburgh 31 year ago, has two brothers in the Army and two in the Navy. His mother and brothers, he said, like his wife Alphie. His wife's relatives, described by him as "fine, cultured people," treat him as one of the family. He is an entertainer. Mrs. Williams is a housewife.

Riot Over Housing Issue Is Narrowly Averted in N. Y.

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
8-23-44

week in an effort to avoid anything like the Harlem riot of last August.

In the past 10 months, colored citizens have moved within two blocks of Riverside drive and the beautiful playgrounds erected at a time when there was no thought of colored people moving in.

This, as civic and political leaders point out, has not pleased some of the whites living "on the drive," so there is apparently much tension in the air. Recently, one real estate operator wanted to rent an apartment house overlooking the Hudson River to colored tenants but objections were raised in the neighborhood and nothing else was heard of the project.

Whites Object To Negroes Moving

Into Riverside Drive Section

NEW YORK (ANP)—A near riot on this city's famous Riverside drive, where colored citizens are expected to be living within an-other two-year period, was narrowly averted here last week when a mob of 300 white youths walked through an area where hundreds of men, women and children were seated yelling: "Get back on the other side, of town, niggers, and stop hanging around where white folks belong." The youths, ranging in age from 13 to 18, were armed with sticks, clubs and stones. ANP reporters learned that the kids were motivated by a false rumor concerning an alleged criminal attack on a white woman. As a result of the flare-up, police from two different stations placed a heavy guard over the area this

Want No Jim Crow Greyhound Bus Jimcra Philly Housing

People's Voice - New York, N.Y.
Enforced by Pennsy

Daily Worker, N.Y.
(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA.—New large-scale housing projects proposed by insurance companies for this area must be free of Jim Crow the United Peoples Action Committee declared, this week as it opened a drive to insure equal participation for all groups in future building.

Action was taken in connection with the insurance company campaign to amend the Pennsylvania State constitution which now prevents the companies from building housing developments.

Arthur Huff Fauset, chairman of the UPAC, told a committee meeting at the Christian St. YMCA that Philadelphia needs more homes, but they must be operated on a democratic basis:

"Any change in the law which would allow insurance companies to erect housing developments must include specific provisions against discrimination."

He urged letters to the Governor and newspapers demanding such safeguards for minorities.

The UPAC is holding a mass meeting in Town Hall, Sunday afternoon, April 30, at which Henrietta Buckmaster, Magistrate Rainey, Rabbi Gerson Brenner will speak.

However, the amendments to the Constitution which Governor Martin is considering do not have anti-discrimination clauses. Unless they are included, the proposed new insurance company housing will not provide homes for the Negro people who are in most desperate need.

Porters of the Greyhound Bus Co. revealed this week that the company is attempting to maintain a jimcra policy almost as severe as that found in the heart of the deep south. Following closely the action of the Pennsylvania Railroad whose officials told PV last week that they were passengers seated two seats from the rear.

"not ashamed" of the special cars for Negro passengers on the re-serve coach trains going south, the bus company, owned by Pennsy, is said to have a code used by the ticket agents that designates what seats are assigned to Negro passengers so that as often as possible a Negro can be placed next to another Negro.

Often, it is said, the company will send out a bus with a vacant seat next to an only Negro passenger. Also, it was revealed, that insofar as possible, Negro passengers are advised by the agents to take buses leaving at an hour when there is an available seat next to another Negro.

In addition, the employees testified that "no Negro, Spanish, Filipino, or other dark skinned person is allowed to sit further front than seat No. 21."

Investigation of the porters' statements brought to light the following facts about buses leaving the 34th st terminal last Saturday afternoon:

- aboard the 4:50 p.m. bus bound for Washington, there were two Negro passengers. They were assigned to the last two seats in the last row;

- the 5:55 p.m. bus, also bound for Washington, contained four Negro passengers, three women and one man. All were seated together within the last two rows;

- the 7:45 p.m. going to the nation's capital carried one Negro passenger, a man bound for Richmond, who said he had made his reservation a month in advance. He was assigned to seat No. 27;

- the Asbury Park bus that left at 4 p.m. carried two Negro

At press time the bus company had issued no official statement, but some action is expected soon as the result of pressure being placed on the company by local civic and social organizations.

Greyhound Continues To Jimcra Negroes

PHILADELPHIA—The Philadelphia People's Voice has registered formal complaint with the local Greyhound Bus Lines, because of their persistent habit of forcing Negro passengers to occupy back seats even when tickets assigned to them are numbered for the front. This action is the result of observation by PV representatives, further verified by porters and red-caps who were queried by PV at the Broad st Greyhound Terminal.

"It is very rare," said one red-cap, "that we see colored people seated in a front seat on a Greyhound bus. Almost always they have seat No. 21 or over. If I were going north or south I would go by National Railways or Quaker City. These lines don't care where you sit."

"Even Negro passengers who phone for their tickets and let on they are white, get the bum's rush" stated a Negro porter. "The operators hear suspicious of certain calls and they will assign such a caller to a rear seat even tho they only guess that he is colored. Another way they have of getting around the telephone buyers is to insist that he come to the window to get his ticket. Thence when they discover he is a Negro they inform him that there is nothing but a rear seat available."

PV was informed that Greyhound even changes assignments made over the phone to Negroes. PV complaint, lose the quarter cent a mile bonus, and will be fired if they persist. Our lines conform to all state laws."

OFFICIAL PASSES BUCK
"Colored passengers are not purposely seated in rear sets of Greyhound buses," contended Bernard McQuire, terminal manager of Greyhound Lines, Inc., Broad Street Station Terminal. "The practice of assigning Negro passengers to rear seats, which you complain about," he continued "is probably due to some personal feeling of a ticket agent who is employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad but who is hired by us for this service."

"We are not responsible for this practice and want it abolished. We are now providing our own bus drivers who promote this practice in Philadelphia of placing Negro passengers in the rear of our buses when the ticket assigned states that he has a front seat available." will, under justifiable and proved

Memphis Upholds Rights Of Race Family To Live In Neighborhood

8-18-44

Lively interest was stirred this week among local Negro residents following a recent ruling on racial segregation in housing.

The ruling was announced last Saturday by Commissioner Fredericks in connection with the rejection of a petition from 25 white residents on Elzey and Tanglewood street, who sought to have a Negro night watchman and his family removed from the building occupied by Culbreath and Ozanne Co.

The ruling stated: "There is no law which prevents a night watchman from residing on the premises. Servants are allowed to live on premises of their white employers, and this condition prevails in many parts of the city."

"In the midst of a war, with manpower shortages, it is not possible to avoid inconveniences which would not exist in normal times."

The Negro family involved is that of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith. The couple has been in Memphis at the Tanglewood and Elzey Street residence a little over two weeks.

A farmer and a laborer, Mr. Smith said he has worked for Mr. W. M. Culbreath, owner of the war plant at Elzey and Tanglewood for three years. The couple moved to Memphis from their home in Capleville, Tennessee, to come here and work for Mr. Culbreath. They left their children in their Capleville home.

The Culbreath and Ozanne Co., is a small war production plant, located in an old gray stone building, which used to serve as the headquarters for a local stone yard. The Smiths live in a partitioned room situated in the rear of the stone building. They have no entrance or exit to either Elzey or Tanglewood streets.

31-year-old ex-farmer Smith, now serving as a night watchman (he is not armed with a gun for his job), said that he has not been molested by any of the score or more of white people in the vicinity who signed the petition protesting his living in their vicinity.

A church-going man, Smith stated that he and his wife know few people in Memphis and as a result do not have many visitors or friends passing to and fro in the neighborhood.

He said that some of the white men employed in the plant he watches at night living nearby on

Elzey and Tanglewood. None of them have ever said anything to him about his residence.

He knows of the petition requesting his removal but continues to go quietly about his duties confident that Mr. Culbreath will

O. K. Servants To Reside in White Section

Memphis Commissioner Rules Out Petition To Oust Negroes

MEMPHIS (ANP)—White residents have no right to protest Negro servants living in their neighborhoods. City Commissioner John Fredericks ruled here Wednesday in a reply to a petition submitted by 25 white families seeking to have a Negro night watchman and his family removed from their section.

"There is no law which prevents a night watchman from residing on the premises," Commissioner Fredericks ruled. "Servants are allowed to live on the premises of their white employers, and this condition prevails in many parts of the city. In the midst of a war, with manpower shortages, it is not possible to avoid inconveniences which would not exist in normal times."

The Negro family, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith, moved into the exclusive white residential section two weeks ago when they accepted the job as night watchman for a nearby war plant.

A farmer and a laborer, Mr. Smith said he worked for W. M. Culbreath, owner of the plant, for three years. The couple moved to Memphis from their home in Capleville, Tenn., so that Smith could accept the war job.

The plant is a small war production plant, located in an old gray stone building, which used to serve as the headquarters for a local stone yard. The Smiths lived in a partitioned room situated in the rear of the stone building. They have no entrance or exit to the principal street on which the protesting residents live.

Block Attempt To Evict Negro

The Worker New York
5-28-44
MILWAUKEE. — A reactionary real estate clique, attempting to arouse race riot sentiment in the 16th Ward where plans for a Negro housing project are under consideration, recently circulated a petition demanding the eviction of the Edward R. Morris family from their private home. The Morris family were the only Negroes on the block.

When a soldier home on furlough, was approached with the petition, he called it to the attention of some of his neighbors. That same day a committee was formed to draw up a counter-petition with which to canvass the community. This petition called on the Milwaukee City Council to reject any proposal leading to discriminate against any of our citizens in their free right to choose where they shall live. Further, we welcome this Negro family into our neighborhood as good citizens who are actively engaged in contributing to our country's war effort." Some 450 neighbors of Mr. Morris signed the statement.

The fight for the 16th Ward housing project is being supported by the CIO, AFL, League of Women Voters, Inter-Racial Committee, Communist Party, and numerous church and civic organizations.